



# HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH: LATINOS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

**A Celebration of the  
Contributions of Hispanic  
People to the United States of  
America, 1492 – the Present.**



# WHY DO WE STUDY HISPANIC HERITAGE IN A UNITED STATES HISTORY CLASS?

We study Hispanic Heritage in order to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans. Because relatively few historians have prioritized the narratives which involve Hispanic and Latino people, we sometimes forget the extremely significant role that they have played in American History. By taking a few moments at the start of class to focus on Hispanic individuals and events which involve Hispanics and Latinos – their cultural, economic, political, military, and social contributions – we will better understand American history. That's the purpose of this month's activities.

**CELEBRATE**  
**Hispanic Heritage Month**



# WHO ARE HISPANICS? WHO ARE LATINOS?

To begin with, let's state what Hispanics and Latinos are not. They are not a racial group. Hispanic Americans may be white, black, Indian, or biracial.

The term Hispanic is a reference to the common ancestral language which many Hispanics – but not all – speak: Spanish. The US Census Bureau uses the term Hispanic to describe people from Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Central and South America, or any other nation of Spanish culture regardless of race. (Interestingly, this includes Brazil – which was Portuguese in its origin and is a nation which does not speak Spanish at all. The term “Hispanic” might easily be expanded to include Filipinos, too. Although colonized by the Spanish, and influenced by the Catholic faith religion and the Spanish language, Filipinos often identify as Asian or Pacific Islanders.)

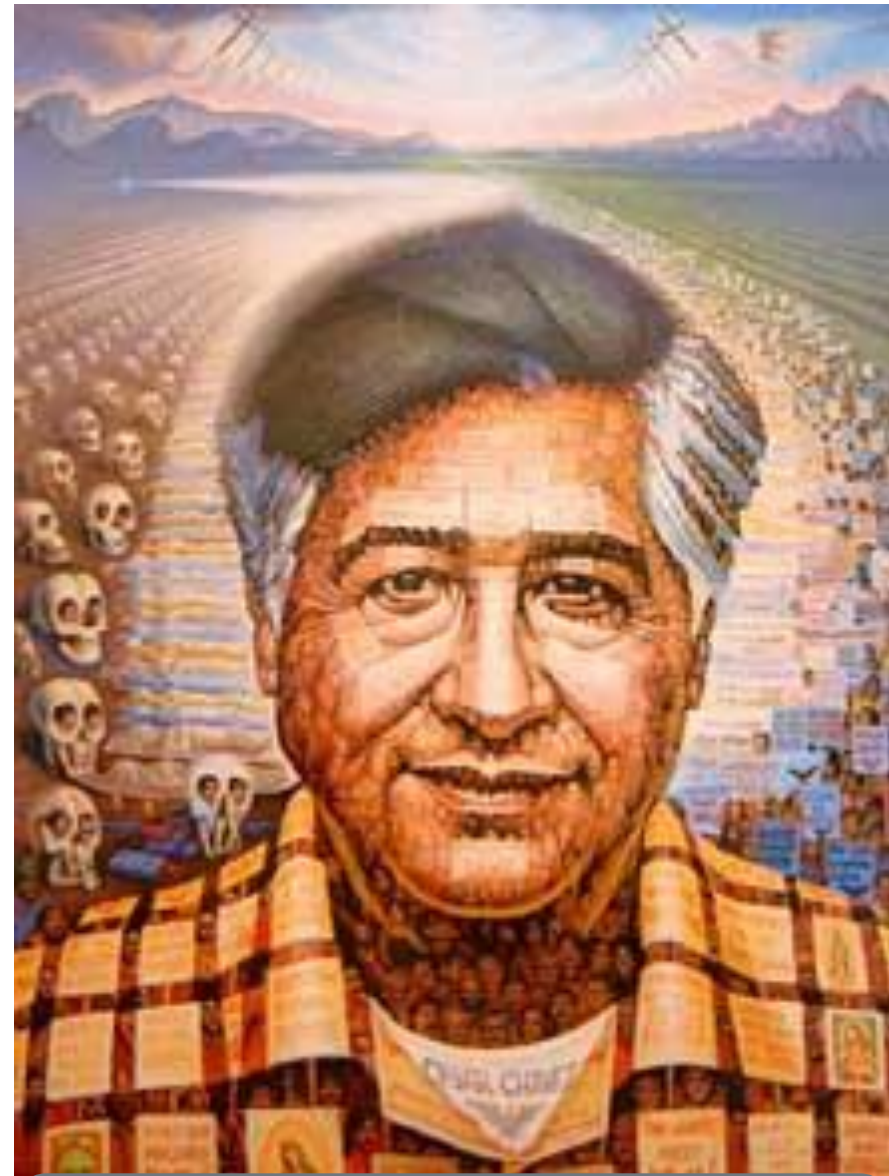
The term Latino, which is often used interchangeably with Hispanic, refers more to the geographic location where many Hispanics trace their origins: Latin America, or Central and South America. They are the descendants of Arawaks, Aztecs, Mayans, Tainos, Spanish Conquistadors, and enslaved Africans. Not a race, but a people.





# WHO ARE CHICANOS?

The term Chicano refers exclusively to Mexican-Americans. It's a term that came into use during the 1960s and is just a variation of "Mexican." Because many of the people who defined themselves as "Chicano" were liberal activists fighting for political justice during the 1960s, the term "Chicano" became somewhat politicized. So, all Chicano people fit the definition of Hispanic or Latino; however, not all Hispanics and Latinos are Chicano. Moreover, some Mexican-Americans prefer not to go by the term "Chicano" and therefore identify as Hispanics or Latinos. Like many identity issues, respecting personal preferences is important.



Mexican-American Civil Rights leader Cesar Chavez was a Chicano leader of the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

# WHAT IS LA RAZA?

La Raza is another term which is frequently used to identify Hispanic or Latino people. Here's where things get confusing. La Raza translates literally to "the race." But, as we stated before, Hispanic and Latino cultures are not a race, per se. The National Council of La Raza – an organization which advocates for the civil rights of Hispanic people – explains the name this way:

The term "La Raza" has its origins in early 20th century Latin American literature and translates into English most closely as "the people" or, according to some scholars, "the Hispanic people of the New World." The term was coined by Mexican scholar José Vasconcelos to reflect the fact that the people of Latin America are a mixture of many of the world's races, cultures, and religions. The full term coined by Vasconcelos, "la raza cósmica," meaning "the cosmic people," reflects an expansive, inclusive view of the mixture inherent in Hispanics and that Hispanics share a common heritage and destiny with all other people of the world.



While the National Council of La Raza has the right to define itself however they choose, we must also note that the term "La Raza" is used by many, many other groups – from legal aid societies, to radio stations, to motorcycle gangs – to denote different identities.





# BACKGROUND FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

**Why is Hispanic Heritage  
Month held from September  
15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>? How does  
this fit in to American History?**



# THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH AMERICAN NATIONS

**Costa Rica**



**El Salvador**



**Guatemala**



**Honduras**



**Nicaragua**



Several Central American nations declared independence on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1821. Three others, **Mexico, Belize, and Chile**, each celebrate their nation's independence during the period between September 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Another very important date which is included during the month long celebration is Columbus Day – October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Hispanic Heritage week was originally established during the Presidency of Lyndon Baines Johnson, in 1968. It was expanded into a nationally recognized, month long celebration by President Ronald Reagan in 1988.

# THE UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU: HISPANICS

In the 2010 Census, the working definition for Hispanic was:

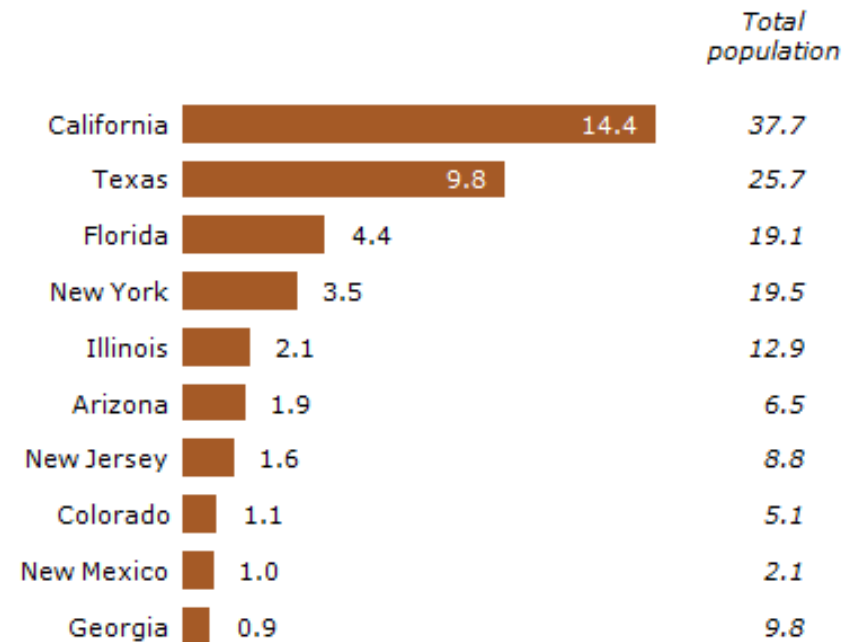
“a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture, regardless of race.”

There are over 55 Million Hispanic people in the United States of America. That means 17% of the United States is Hispanic. Over 40 Million people speak Spanish in the United States of America.

*The only nation with a larger Hispanic population than the United States of America is Mexico.*

Figure 3

**Top 10 States by Hispanic Population, 2011**  
(in millions)



Notes: The states shown are the 10 largest by Hispanic population.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2011 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



# FACTS ABOUT HISPANIC AMERICANS

- ✓ Hispanics make up 8.4 percent of the voters in national elections.
- ✓ Over 1.2 Million members of the US Armed Forces are Hispanic.
- ✓ Approximately 11% of the active duty US military forces are Hispanics.
- ✓ The state with the largest percentage of Hispanic residents is New Mexico; however, several states in the United States are now “majority-minority” states – including Texas, California, New Mexico, Nevada, and, of course, Washington, D.C.





Lyndon Baines Johnson was the founder of Hispanic Heritage Week, back in 1968, his final year as President of the United States of America. If you are familiar with LBJ's legacy, this probably won't surprise you. He started out in life as a school teacher in a district which was pre-dominantly Mexican-American, and always wanted to help underprivileged students – the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was his greatest stride towards that goal.

**HISPANIC  
HERITAGE WEEK  
EST. 1968**



# RONALD REAGAN ESTABLISHES HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH, 1988

Ronald Reagan created Hispanic Heritage month in 1988, mandating that thirty days each year, between September 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> would be used to celebrate the contributions of Hispanic people to the United States of America. **Ronald Reagan's Proclamation 5859:**

"Hispanic Americans give many gifts to our Nation, such as perpetuating the traditions of their ancestral homelands and offering a great array of talents and insights as they achieve and excel in every area of endeavor. But perhaps their most notable gift is their testimony about the power of the American dream to inspire miracles. The accomplishments of Hispanic Americans through the years remind all of us that in America we are blessed with the freedom to live, work, and worship in peace and to build a better life for ourselves and our children. Generations of proud, hardworking, enterprising Hispanic Americans have strengthened our communities and fought for our country. They have believed in America's miraculous promise and have helped preserve that promise for the future."

"This is good reason during National Hispanic Heritage Week for every citizen who loves our Nation to salute Hispanic Americans. We should do so in gratitude for their love of this country and for the many ways they have expressed that love in accordance with the creed, "Creemos en milagros—we believe in miracles."





# HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH PROFILES AND MILESTONES

The People, Events, and  
Watershed Moments Influencing  
American History.

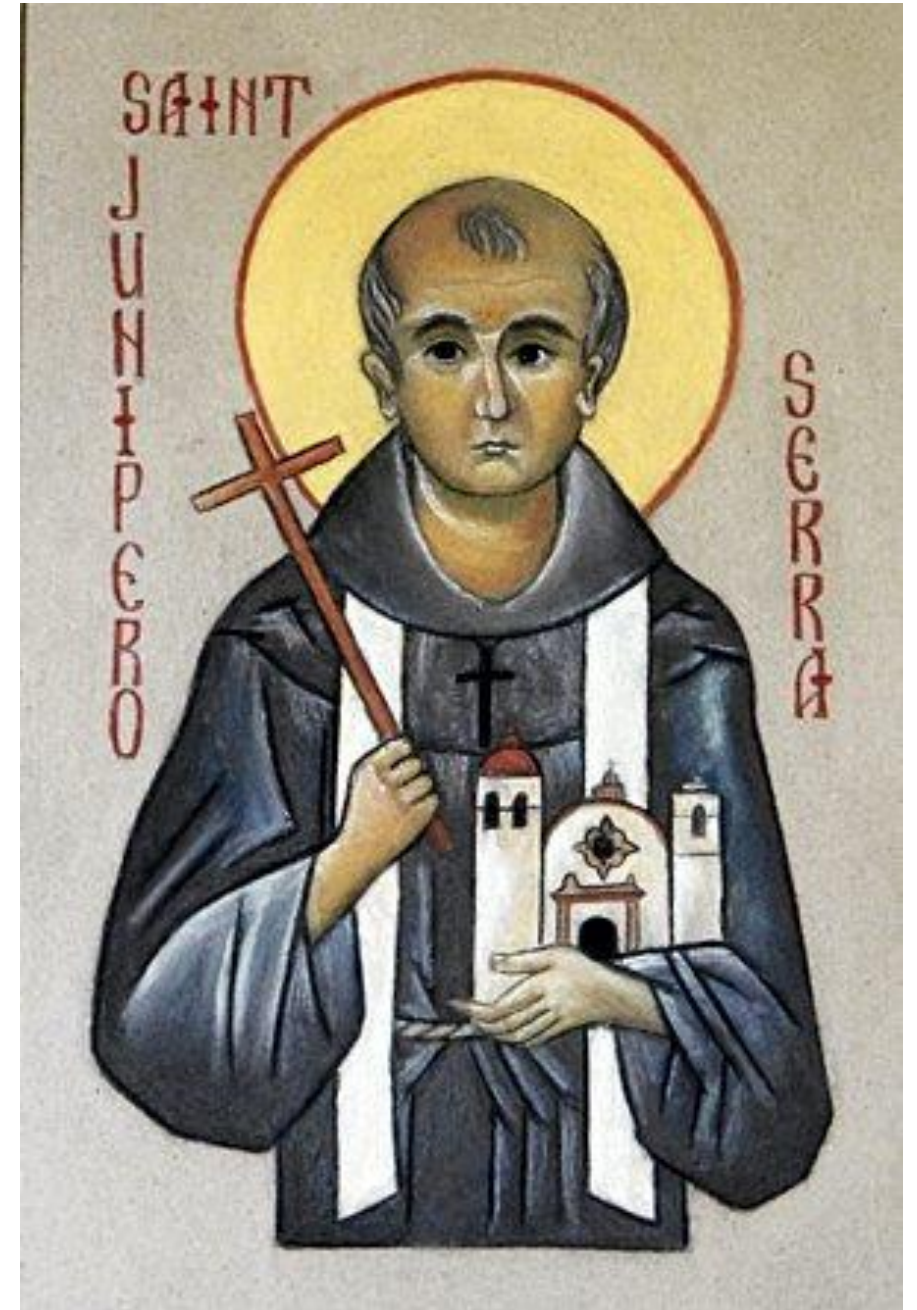


# ST. JUNIPERO SERRA

St. Junipero Serra was the Spanish Franciscan priest who established missions from San Diego to San Francisco in what was known then at Alta California. Serra was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1988 and became a saint during a ceremony led by Pope Francis at the National Basilica in Washington, D.C. in 2015.

Serra arrived in New Spain – at a site in present day Mexico – in 1749. Refusing to ride a horse, he walked from Veracruz to Mexico City. He was distinguished for both his humility and self-flagellation – inflicting physical punishment upon himself for sinful thoughts.

It was well into the 1760s before Serra began his missionary work on the west coast of North America.



# THE CONTROVERSY OVER ST. JUNIPERO SERRA

San Diego, Monterrey, San Luis Obispo, and San Francisco were all established as cities owing to the missionary work of Junipero Serra. Hence, his work is part of the foundational story of California in the United States.

The treatment of Native American people who inhabited California by Junipero Serra is a point of great controversy. Without doubt, he attempted to impose his own views on the native people of California. The use of coercion and physical violence was standard among many of the Spanish, and although Serra often wrote that he opposed such methods, he was undoubtedly complicit in the eventual demise of those cultures. Some historians view him as a gentle spirit who intervened in the interest of Native Americans; others view him as one who imposed his religion upon others by coercion or force.

The beatification and sainthood of Junipero Serra provoked similar debates in Native American communities. Some viewed him as the man who brought Christianity and salvation to their people; others viewed him as the frontline of a process which led to the destruction of their cultures.





# BERNARDO DE GALVEZ — REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The American Revolution was a transatlantic event that involved virtually every court in Europe. France's role in the conflict is well-known, but Spain, too, played a vital part in helping to create the United States. Spain was an ally of France and long an enemy of Great Britain. It was more due to these relationships, than a great affinity for the struggling new republic, that prompted Spain to officially enter the war against Great Britain in 1779. At the time of the American Revolution, almost all of the modern-day United States west of the Mississippi, was a part of Spain, as was Mexico. Louisiana was in Spanish territory and its governor was a young nobleman named, Bernardo de Galvez.

In the early years of the Revolution, Galvez provided aid to the American cause by allowing tons of supplies to be shipped up the Mississippi to patriot forces in the north. With Spain's official entry into the war in 1779, Galvez raised a patchwork army of Creoles, Indians, free African Americans and his own Spanish regulars and marched on British-held forts at Baton Rouge and Natchez. A year later, he engaged the British at Mobile, and a year after that at Pensacola, in western Florida. In each case, Galvez was able to force the British from their entrenchments.

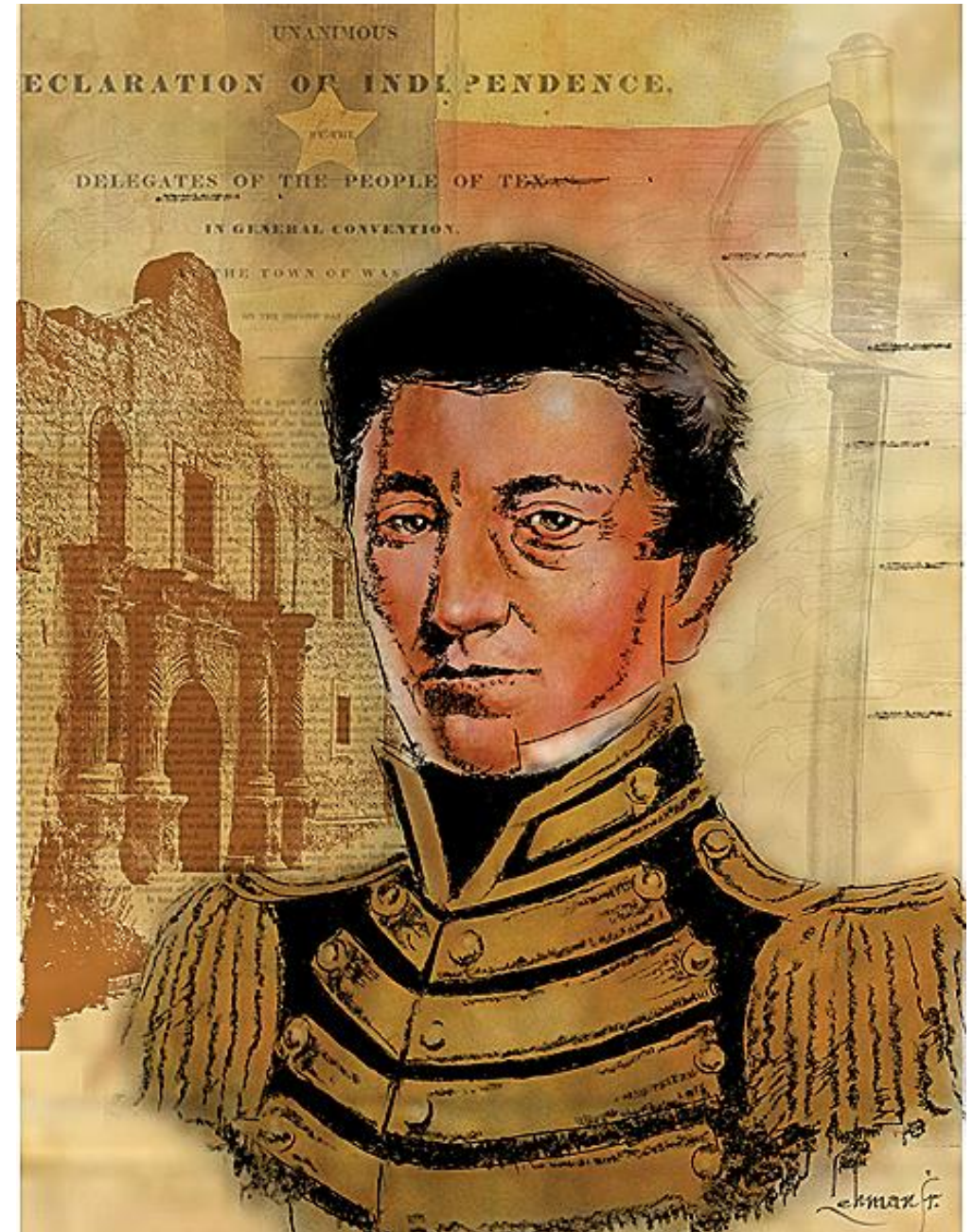
These victories diluted British strength in the south when Great Britain needed it most—just as it was bringing the campaign into the southern colonies. Galvez' armies ability to distract British forces allowed Nathaneal Green and the Continental Army in the South greater ease of movement than they may otherwise have had, forcing the English to fight a two-fronted conflict. For his heroics, Galvez was memorialized in Texas, where the city of Galveston honors him with its name.



[http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/pup\\_degavez.html](http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/pup_degavez.html)

# JUAN SEGUIN AND THE BATTLE OF THE ALAMO

Juan Seguin's life was uniquely representative of Mexican-Americans living in the borderland. He was born in 1806 what was then called Bexar, New Spain. Today – modern San Antonio, TX. As a Tejano, he was active politically at a young age – during a time of great change and unrest. During the 1820s, when American settlers led by Stephen F. Austin began to populate the region, he and his family coexisted with the newcomers. Indeed, when Santa Anna – the notorious Mexican dictator – rose to power, Seguin put his lot in with the Texans. The most dramatic and well known aspect of his life occurred during the Texas War for Independence at the Alamo.





# JUAN SEGUIN, THE SOLE SURVIVING HERO OF THE BATTLE OF THE ALAMO

During the battle of the Alamo, Seguin was sent out across enemy lines to deliver a desperate message to Texas leader Sam Houston. The message was delivered; however, Houston viewed a rescue mission as folly. The Alamo fell, and all of its defenders were killed by Santa Anna and his men. Seguin, however, would continue fighting for the independence of Texas. He and his company of men would fight side by side with Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto, where Texas won its freedom from Mexico officially.



Juan Seguin was the sole survivor of the Battle of the Alamo, because he was sent on a dangerous errand carrying a message to Sam Houston, in hopes of getting reinforcements for the battle.





Although he played a role in achieving ultimate victory for the Texans, Seguin would not find a comfortable home in the newly founded nation of Texas. Outraged that Tejanos continued to encounter discrimination and disenfranchisement, he would eventually find himself at odds with the new government. He opposed the annexation of Texas by the United States, and even fought on the Mexican side during the Mexican-American War. Despite fighting against the US, he returned to Texas following the war, and even won political office again. Later in life he emigrate to Nuevo Laredo – across the border in Mexico – to be closer to his family. He is buried in Texas, near his place of birth in San Antonio, TX.

## JUAN SEGUIN



<http://www.fridakahlo.it/en/biografia.php>

# FRIDA KAHLO AND DIEGO RIVERA - ARTISTS

Frida Kahlo is a Mexican painter, born on July 6, 1907 and dead on July 13, 1954. Frida claimed to be born on 1910, the year of the outbreak of the Mexican revolution, because she wanted her life began together with the modern Mexico.

This detail well introduces us to a singular personality, characterized since her childhood by a deep sense of independence and rebellion against social and moral ordinary habits, moved by passion and sensuality, proud of her "Mexicanidad" and cultural tradition set against the reigning Americanization: everything mixed with a peculiar sense of humour.

Her life was marked by physical suffering, started with the polio contracted at the age of five and worsen by her life-dominating event occurred in 1925. A bus accident caused severe injuries to her body owing to a pole that pierced her from the stomach to the pelvis. The medicine of her time tortured her body with surgical operations (32 throughout her life), corsets of different kinds and mechanical "stretching" systems.

Lots of her works were painted laying in the bed. Because of these physical conditions Frida could not have children and this was devastating for her. She had a great love, Diego Rivera (she married twice with this man and dedicated to him a passionate diary) but also a lot of lovers, men and women, such as Leon Trotsky and André Breton's wife....

It is impossible to sum up in few lines the complexity and charm of Frida's life.



“Self Portrait on the Borderland Between Mexico and the United States” – **by Frida Kahlo**

# FRIDA KAHLO AND DIEGO RIVERA - ARTISTS

Diego Rivera was born in December 1886, in Guanajuato, Mexico. Considered a prodigy at a very early age, he began painting at age two. Rivera studied and worked in Spain, France and Italy, discovering a passion for murals. Returning to Mexico, Diego's popularity grew. In the 1920s he painted a number of large murals depicting scenes from Mexican history.

Throughout his life, Rivera was active in politics and the Communist Party, acting as a Mexican delegate to the Soviet Union in 1927. Contributions to his native country included serving as head of the Department of Plastic Crafts at the Ministry of Education; creating the Labor Union of Technical Workers, Painters, and Sculptors; and forming the Commission of Mural Painting, an arm of the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes.

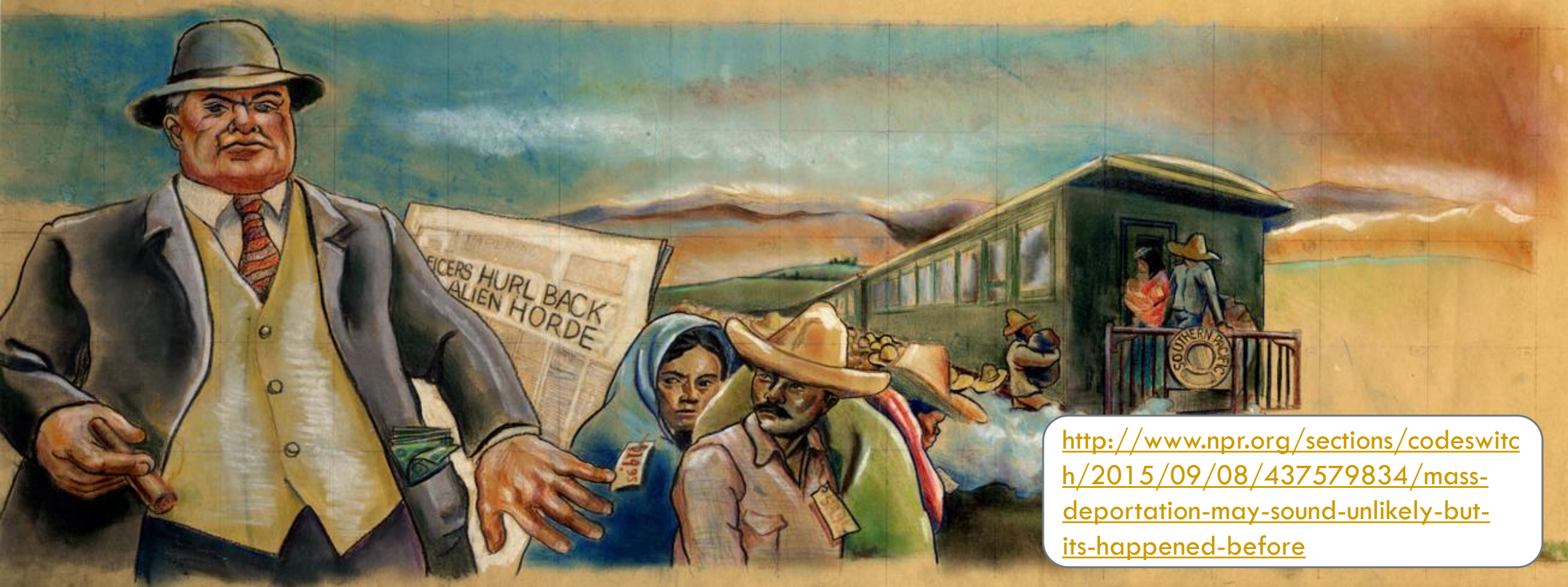
Rivera married Mexican artist Frida Kahlo in 1929, but fidelity was out of the question for him. A doctor had once told him that he was unfit for monogamy, and Rivera cheerfully accepted the diagnosis. Rivera and Kahlo had been married less than a year when he had his first affair. Their troubled marriage and numerous affairs (she, too, was unfaithful) led to divorce in 1939, but the couple remarried late the following year. When Kahlo died in 1954, Diego wrote, "I realized that the most wonderful part of my life had been my love for Frida." In November 1957, at the age of 70, Rivera died of heart failure in his San Angel studio.



One of Diego Rivera's more Communist leaning works. The brief biography to the left is from

<http://www.pbs.org/weta/fridakahlo/life/people.html>





<http://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2015/09/08/437579834/mass-deportation-may-sound-unlikely-but-its-happened-before>

On more than one occasion in United States history, the mass deportation of Mexican immigrants and Mexican-Americans has been carried out by agents of the federal government. During the Great Depression, this policy was motivated by the desire to preserve what limited jobs may be available for unemployed white workers and migrants from the “Dust Bowl” area. During the 1950s, a federal program known by the epithet “Operation Wetback” deported Over one million Mexican workers in 1954 and hundreds of thousands more each year from 1954 – 1962. During both episodes, American citizens were deported from their homeland and repatriated into Mexico.

**MASS DEPORTATIONS OF  
MEXICANS – AND  
MEXICAN-AMERICANS –  
IN UNITED STATES  
HISTORY, 1930S – 1960S**





During the 1930s, historians estimate that over two million Mexicans and Mexican-Americans were deported from the United States into Mexico. While many of these individuals were migrant workers who had no legal status in the United States, there are many examples of Mexican-American families – full fledged citizens of the United States of America – who were rounded up by forces of the United States Military and “repatriated” to Mexico. The deportation is rarely emphasized in history textbooks, despite the unique nature of program. The link to the right tells the story of a group of 5<sup>th</sup> graders in California who successfully argued that this episode should be recorded!

[HTTP://REMEZCLA.COM  
/CULTURE/MEXICAN-  
REPATRIATION-1930-  
HISTORY-BOOKS/](http://remezcla.com/culture/mexican-repatriation-1930-history-books/)

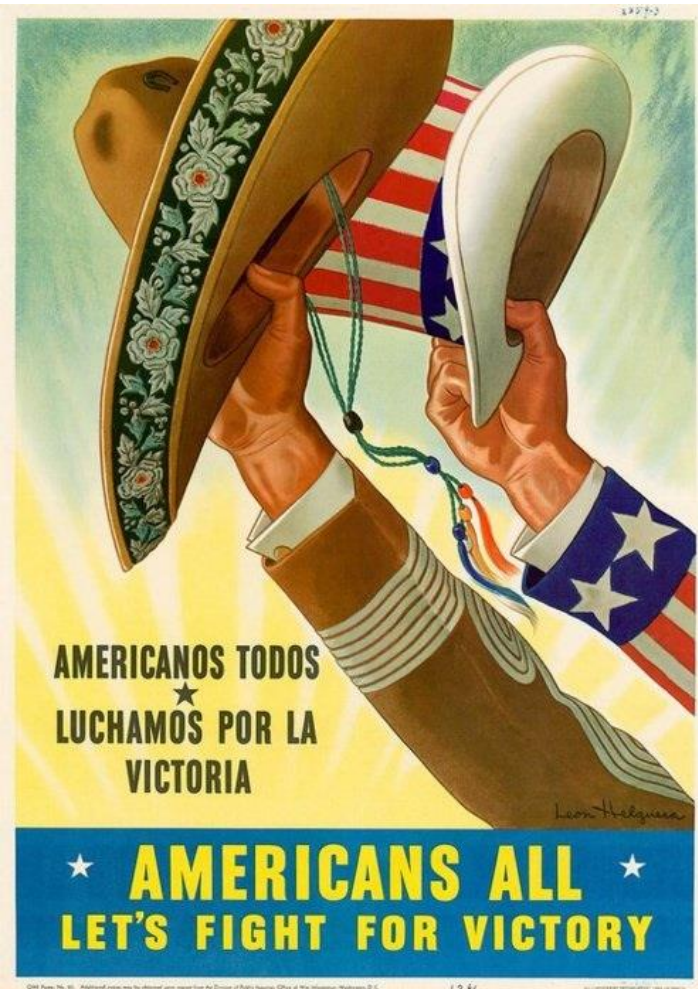


# THE BRACERO PROGRAM: MEXICO'S PRECONDITIONS IN MAKING THE AGREEMENT

- Mexican workers were not to serve in the U.S. military
- Mexican workers were not to be subjected to discrimination on or off the job
- Mexican workers were to be guaranteed transportation to and from their destinations, decent living conditions in the United States, and repatriation at the end of their contract periods, in accordance with Mexican labor laws
- Mexican workers were not to be used to replace American domestic servants or to reduce wage levels



# THE BRACERO PROGRAM OF WORLD WAR II



When the United States entered World War II in December of 1941, most of the young, able-bodied men in the country joined the Armed Forces and began getting shipped overseas. This left a massive labor shortage in the U.S., particularly in agriculture. As the 1942 harvest season approached, farmers lobbied Congress for a solution to their worker shortage.

This led to the Mexican Farm Labor Agreement, which was signed between the United States and Mexican governments on August 4, 1942. Under the program, braceros could be admitted to the U.S. to work on farms and were guaranteed basic rights such as adequate food and shelter and a minimum wage of 30 cents per hour. They were also not to be barred from 'whites-only' areas such as restaurants.

After World War II ended in 1945, the Bracero Program continued largely at the behest of the U.S. State Department. With the Cold War beginning, the State Department was worried about Mexico coming under communist influence, and the Bracero Program was seen as a way to promote harmony between the two countries and improve the financial condition of Mexicans.

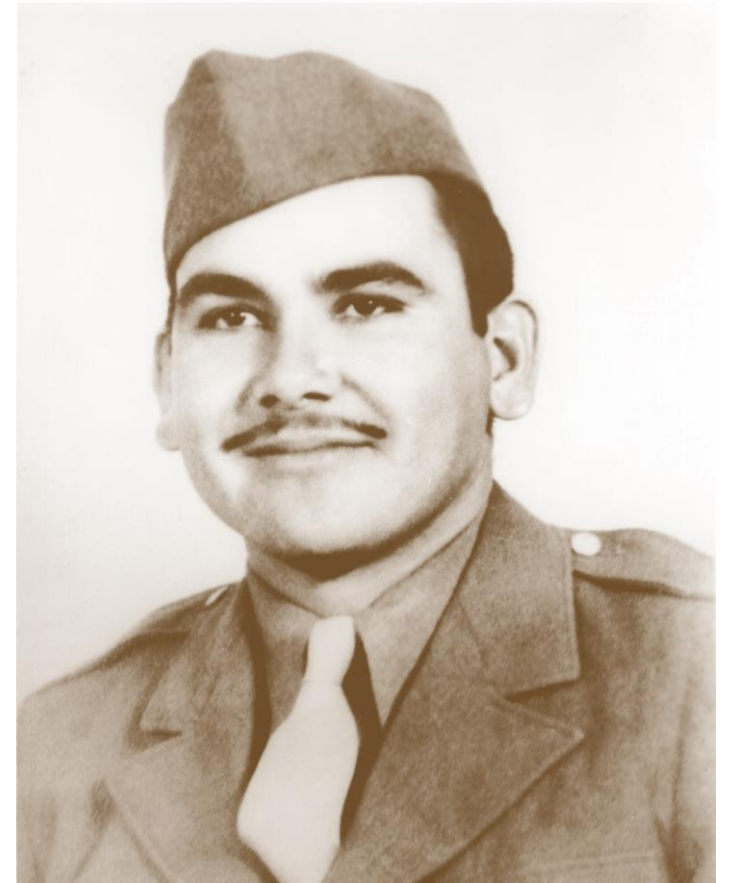
Worries over illegal immigration and loss of American jobs made the program controversial in the late 1940s and early 1950s, but President Truman reauthorized the program in 1951 with Public Law 78. Under this new Bracero Program, the government, not the individual employers, became the guarantors of the braceros' contracts. While it also stated that braceros couldn't be used to replace striking U.S. workers, the law made it clear that braceros did not have the right to go on strike or negotiate their wages. Several work stoppages led by Braceros had taken place during the 1940s.



# FELIX LONGORIA — HISPANIC SOLDIER BURIED AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Felix Longoria was a Mexican-American who volunteered to fight for the United States Army during World War II. After completing basic training and being assigned to the 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Sent to fight in the Philippines as Luzon, Longoria was felled by a Japanese machine gunner, along with many of his fellow soldiers. His body was unable to be identified for a period of years, and would not be returned to his family until 1949.

When his widow attempted to secure a funeral home in Three Rivers, TX, the story took a turn for the worse. The white owner of the funeral home refused to allow her to have a wake for her husband, reportedly claiming, “the whites wouldn’t like it” if he did.



# FELIX LONGORIA — VETERAN OF WORLD WAR II

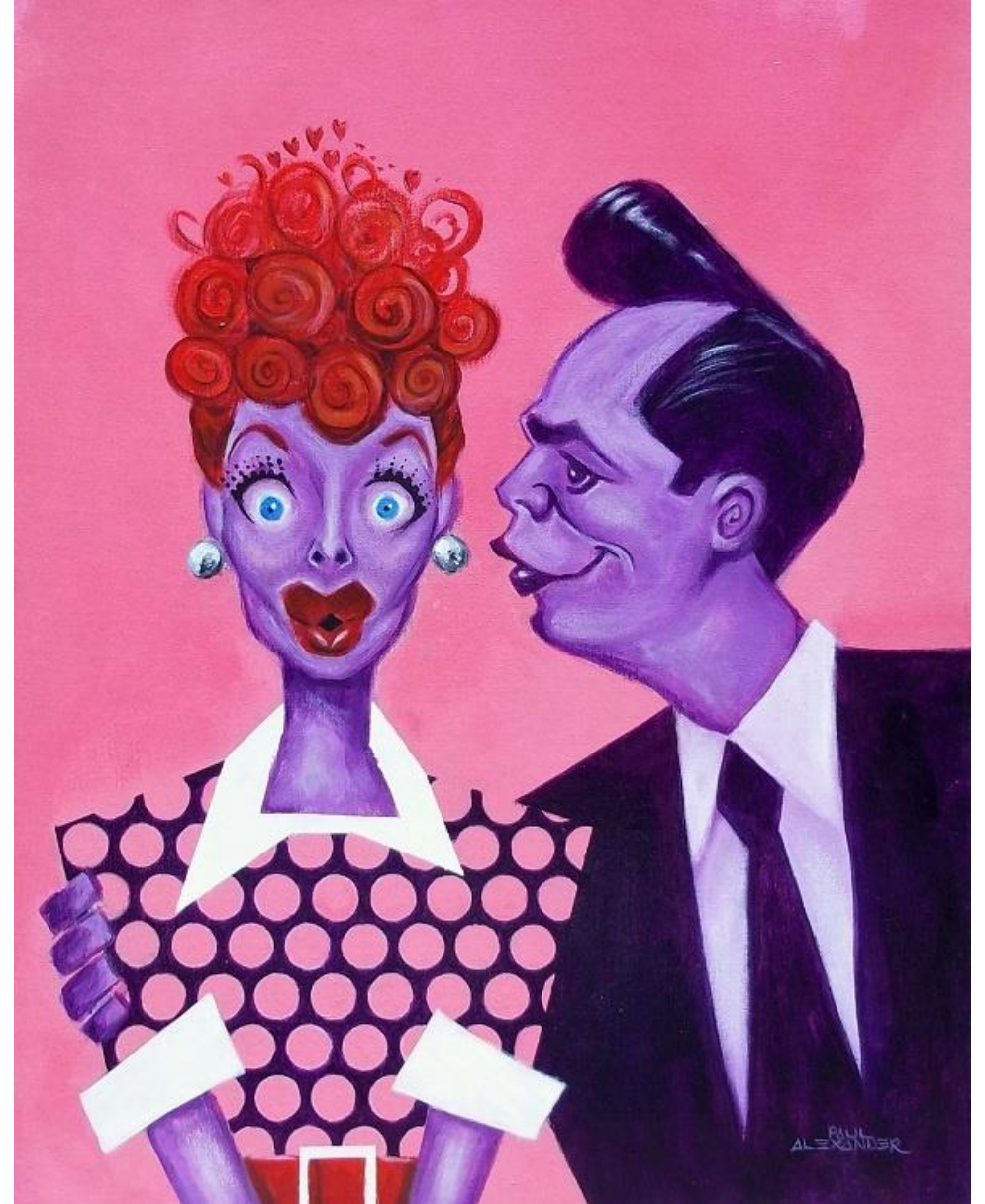
Unable to bury her husband in the segregated cemetery at Three Rivers, TX, Mrs. Longoria was at a loss as to what to do next. Her sister in law and she determined to seek assistance. Hector Garcia — the founder of an organization called the GI Forum, which advocated for the rights of Mexican-American Veterans — wrote to freshman Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson hoping for an appropriate resolution. LBJ came up with a solution which satisfied the Longoria's: Felix Longoria was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery. Sadly, the city of Three Rivers, TX has still not come to terms with its history, first destroying and then refusing to maintain an historical marker which was commissioned to memorialize Felix Longoria and his affair.





# DESI ARNAZ

Desi Arnaz was born in Cuba in 1917, and escape the island nation in 1933 with his family. His family was relatively wealthy in Cuba, and was forced to escape the revolution there in 1933. Arnaz caught on as a guitarist in New York and then broke out on his own in Miami, Florida, introducing the conga line to American audiences. From there he went to Broadway, starring in the musical “Too Many Girls,” and eventually to Hollywood, where he played the same role in a film adaptation. He met Lucille Ball during this period, the woman he would become famous with in the television series, “I Love Lucy!”



# DESI ARNAZ

During World War II, Desi Arnaz served as a member of the USO, entertaining the troops with his music and directing a band for the famed comedian Bob Hope. It was after the war, from 1951 to 1957 that I Love Lucy became the number one television situation comedy (sitcom) in the country. In many ways, Desi Arnaz was a pioneer in the television industry. He founded Desilu Productions, and was commercially successful. By the 1960s, though, his marriage to Lucille Ball fell apart, and he sold his share of ownership to her.





NO

DOGS  
NEGROS  
MEXICANS

20 FEB. 1929

EL PASO, TEXAS

Pete Hernandez, an agricultural worker, was indicted for the murder of Joe Espinoza by an all white grand jury in Jackson County, Texas. Claiming that Mexican-Americans were barred from the jury commission that selected jurors. They argued that it was unfair that people of Mexican descent were excluded from jury service in this case. A Mexican-American had not served on a jury in Jackson County in over 25 years and thus, Hernandez claimed that Mexican ancestry citizens were discriminated against as a special class in Jackson County. The trial court, however, denied the motions. Hernandez was found guilty of murder and sentenced by the all-white jury to life in prison.

***HERNANDEZ V.  
TEXAS (1954)***

## *HERNANDEZ V. TEXAS* SUPREME COURT CASE (1954)

In affirming, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals found that "Mexicans are...members of and within the classification of the white race as distinguished from members of the Negro Race" and rejected the petitioners' argument that they were a "special class" under the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment. In *Hernandez V. Texas*, the Supreme Court did not agree. Under Chief Justice Earl Warren, they ruled that Mexican-Americans were a "special class" entitled to protection under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. Within the Hispanic community of the United States, this had the same influence as *Brown V. Board of Education* did for African-Americans. In other words, the decision guaranteed equal protection under the law!





# CESAR CHAVEZ AND DOLORES HUERTA - UFW

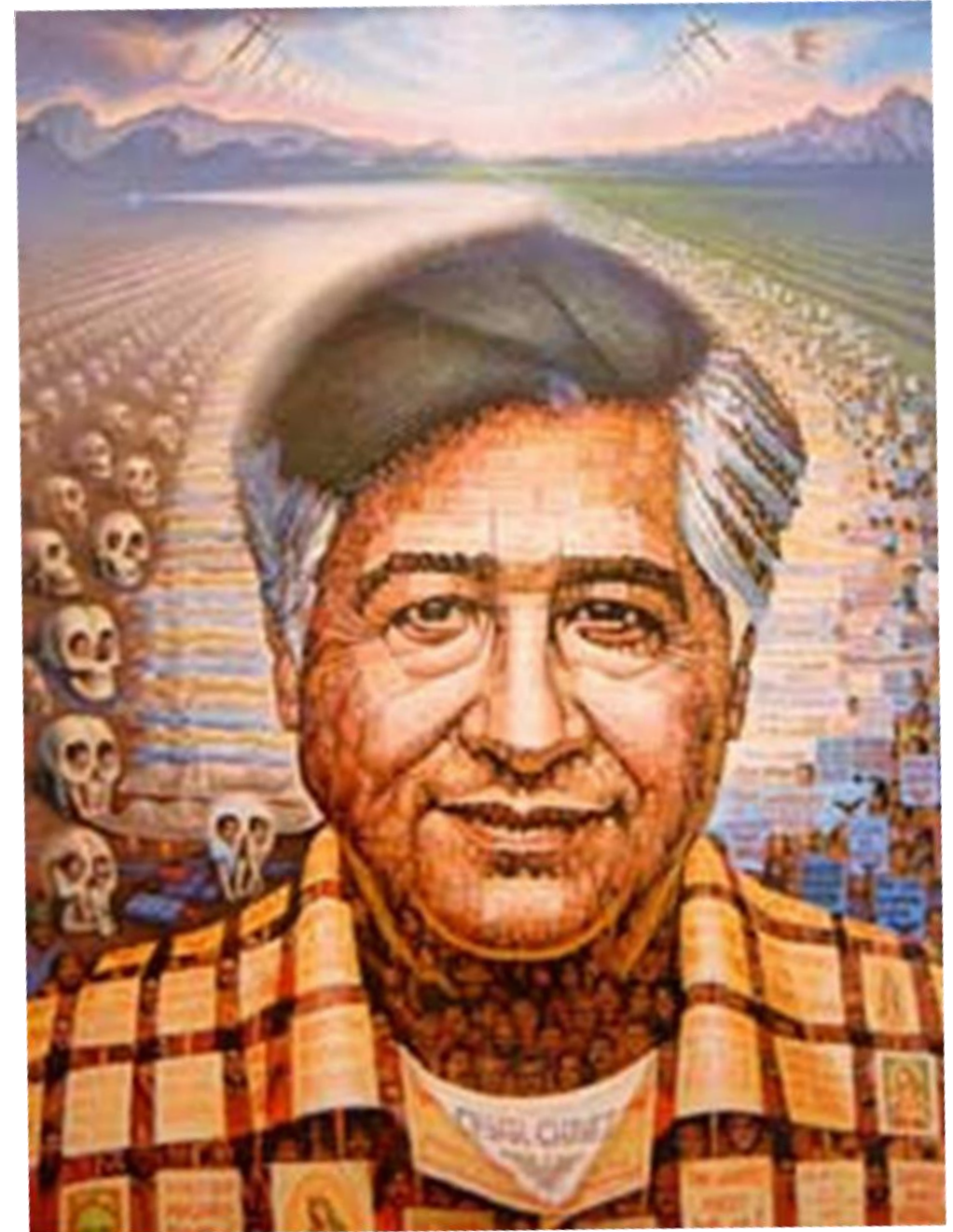
Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta were the leaders of the United Farm Workers Union, an advocacy group with organized migrant workers – most of whom were from Mexico or other parts of Latin America – to demand living wages, better working conditions, adequate housing, and education for their children.

Some of their most effective techniques included the strike and the boycott. Obviously, farm workers who were involved with the harvest of perishable goods could make demands upon property owners with a well timed strike. But the orchard owners could often find strike breakers to pick crops. Thus, the boycott was born. Through effective media campaigns, Chavez and Huerta were able to convince American consumers that by purchasing products like lettuce or grapes, they were condoning the mistreatment of migrant workers and their children. **The consumers were complicit.**



# CESAR CHAVEZ

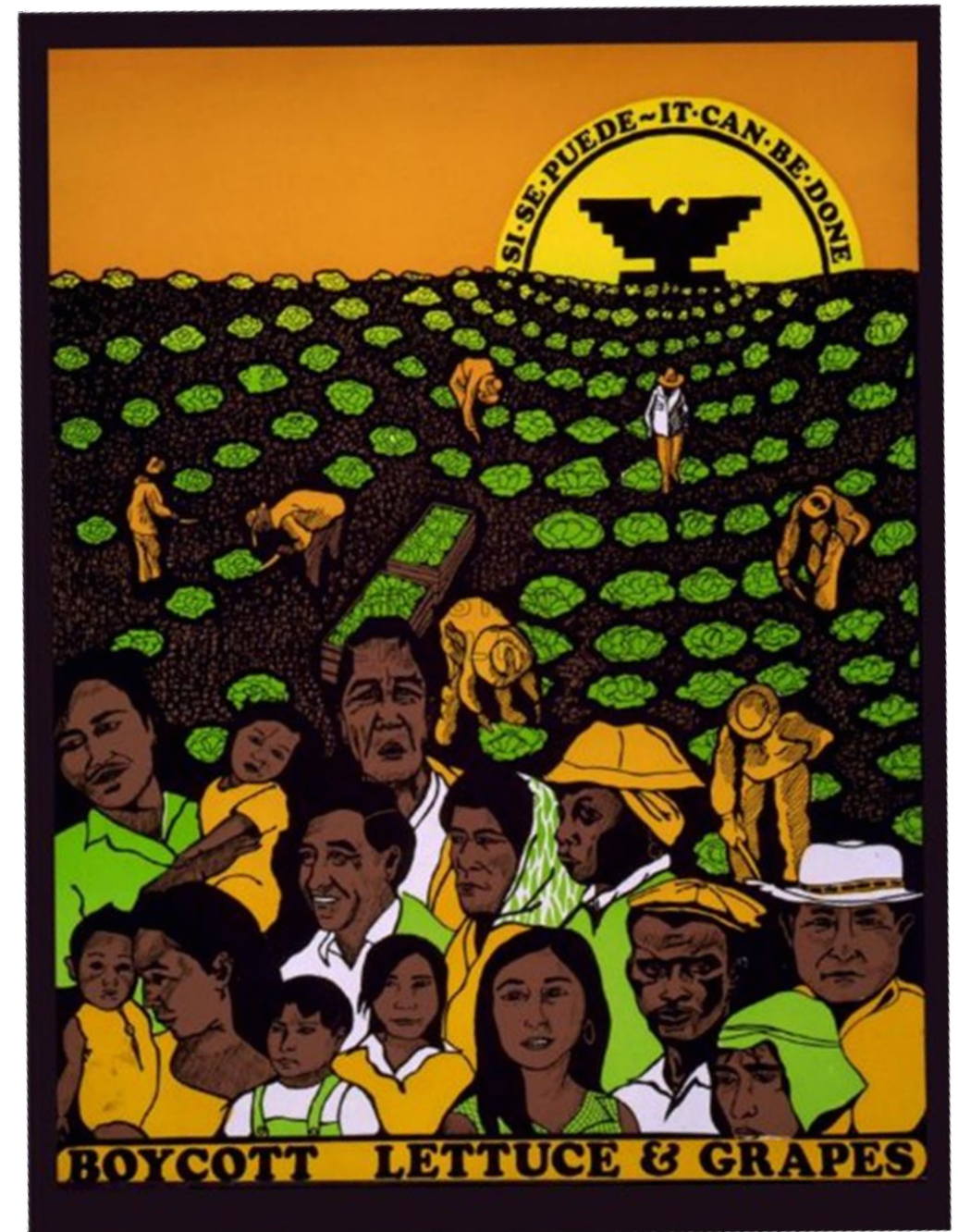
Cesar Chavez is one of the most influential labor union leaders of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. As a child, he grew up the son of migrant laborers, and experienced some of the deprivations of that lifestyle. He was born near Yuma, AZ, and his father was an agricultural laborer who was taken advantage of in a corrupt real estate deal involving a disingenuous white neighbor and local lawyer. The family moved to California, where they became migrant workers – picking crops all across California and living in local barrios often known by the saying “Sal Si Puede.” In Spanish, “leave if you can.” Chavez attended segregated schools where white teachers forbid the students to speak in Spanish, and rarely attended any one school for any length of time. By eighth grade, he had quit school altogether to support his family by working in the fields. In 1946, he decided to take a chance and seek a better life by joining the United States Navy. He signed up and served for two years. During this period and the years to follow, he would devote himself to education and became a great admirer of Gandhi, St. Francis, and a community service organizer named Fred Ross.





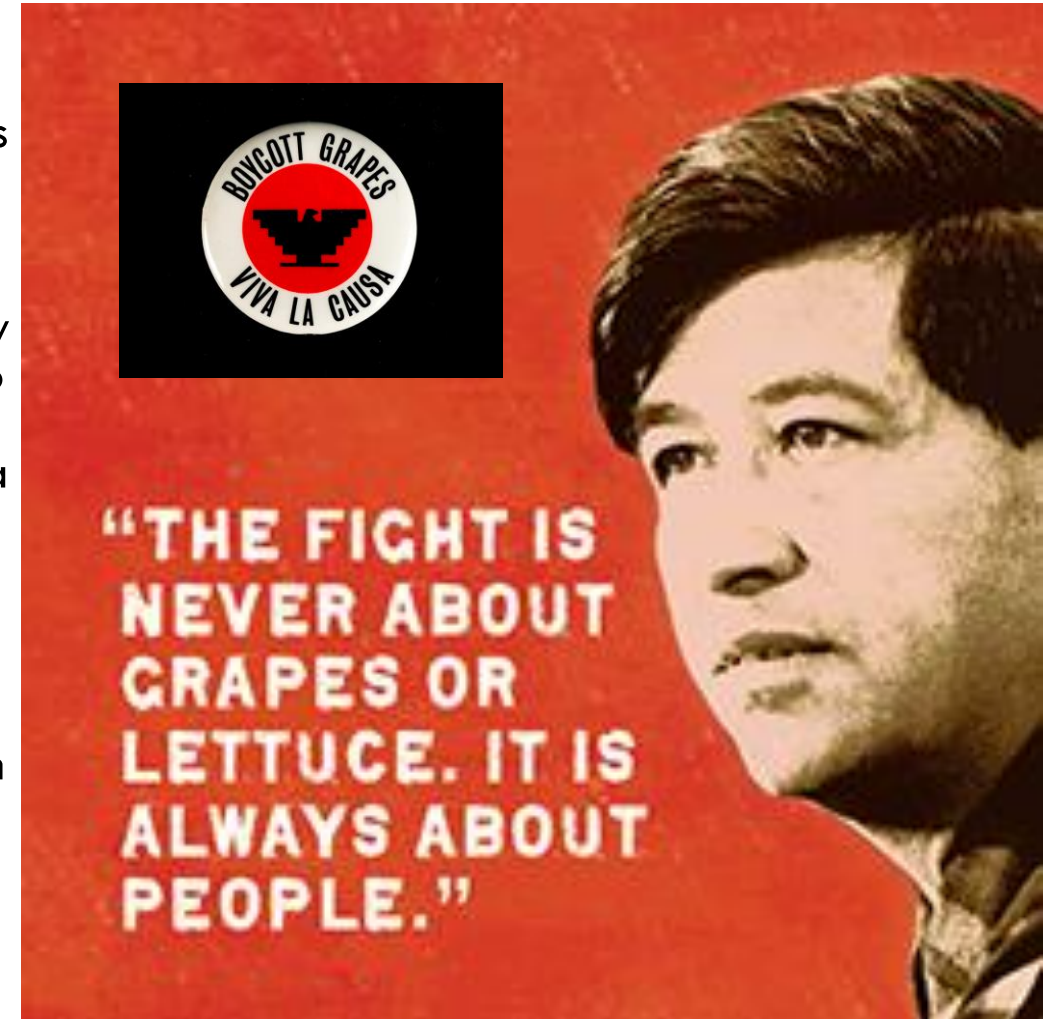
# CESAR CHAVEZ

In 1962, Cesar Chavez created the National Farm Workers Union, the union which would eventually become the United Farm Workers under the leadership of Chavez and Dolores Huerta. Using many of the tactics of Gandhi and leaders of the African-American Civil Rights Movement, Chavez began to organize laborers and consumers to improve conditions for migrant workers. He led the Delano Grapes Strike, went on public hunger strikes to protest conditions among workers, led a 340 mile march to protest low wages and poor living conditions, and eventually organized boycotts on lettuce and grapes in order to put pressure on farm owners to treat their workers with dignity and pay living wages.



# CESAR CHAVEZ — THE UNITED FARM WORKERS

Fasting was one of Chavez' most unique methods of protests. He stated: " A fast is first and foremost personal. It is a fast for the purification of my own body, mind, and soul. The fast is also a heartfelt prayer for purification and strengthening for all those who work beside me in the farm worker movement. The fast is also an act of penance for those in positions of moral authority and for all men and women activists who know what is right and just, who know that they could and should do more. The fast is finally a declaration of non-cooperation with supermarkets who promote and sell and profit from California table grapes. During the past few years I have been studying the plague of pesticides on our land and our food," Cesar continued "The evil is far greater than even I had thought it to be, it threatens to choke out the life of our people and also the life system that supports us all. This solution to this deadly crisis will not be found in the arrogance of the powerful, but in solidarity with the weak and helpless. I pray to God that this fast will be a preparation for a multitude of simple deeds for justice. Carried out by men and women whose hearts are focused on the suffering of the poor and who yearn, with us, for a better world. Together, all things are possible."





# DOLORES HUERTA

Dolores Huerta was the leader of a union for migrant workers in California who served as a co-founder – with Cesar Chavez – of the United Farm Workers union. The union worked in order to improve pay, reduce working hours, improved housing conditions, and provide access to education for the children of the mostly Mexican-American farm workers who picked lettuce, grapes, and dozens of other crops in California.

Huerta had been born in a mining town in New Mexico – in fact, her father was a New Mexico state representative from the region. When her parents split up, though, she moved with her mother to California. Her mother operated a hotel near Stockton, CA, which catered to Filipino, Mexican, African-American, Japanese, and Chinese laborers.

Huerta went to Stockton High School, where she was very involved with student leadership. She excelled in school and attended the University of the Pacific Delta College, where she earned her teaching certificate. Seeking to help her own students, she devoted herself to community activism.

DOLORES  HUERTA



PUBLIC ADVOCATE

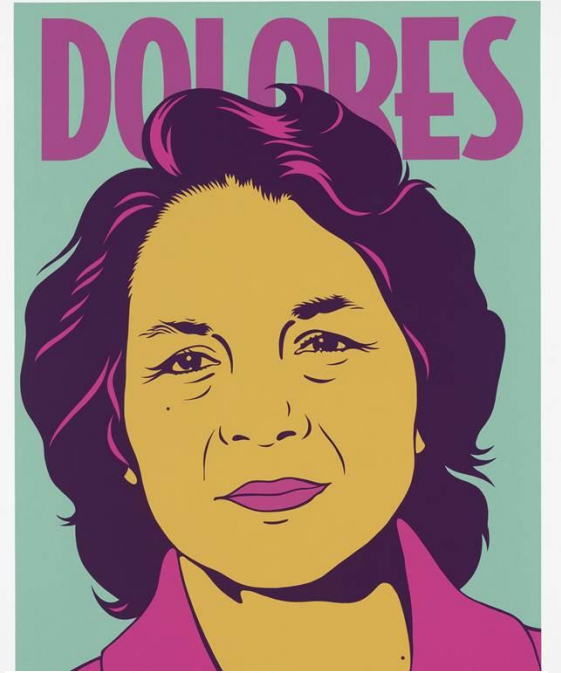
# DOLORES HUERTA

Disappointed and frustrated by the fact that her hungry and barefoot students were facing problems she could not solve with education alone, Huerta resigned her teaching position in order to get involved with community organizing. She established the Agricultural Workers Association, a group which would eventually merge with Cesar Chavez' National Farm Workers Union. While she and Chavez shared many purposes, they were also frequently engaged in private "blowups" regarding differences of opinion.

Huerta led a number of boycotts from New York, where she met Gloria Steinem, who influenced her by encouraging greater activism on behalf of woman's issues.

In 1988, Huerta – an advocate of peaceful, non-violent protest throughout her life – was assaulted by a police officer while engaged in a protest against Presidential candidate George H.W. Bush in San Francisco. She was beaten with a baton, and had four ribs broken – bursting her spleen and leaving her near death.

At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Huerta was a leader of the Feminist Majority's Feminization of Power: 50/50 by the year 2000 campaign, encouraging Latina's to run for office. She currently leads the Dolores Huerta Foundation, in support of equality for all and in defense of Civil Rights.





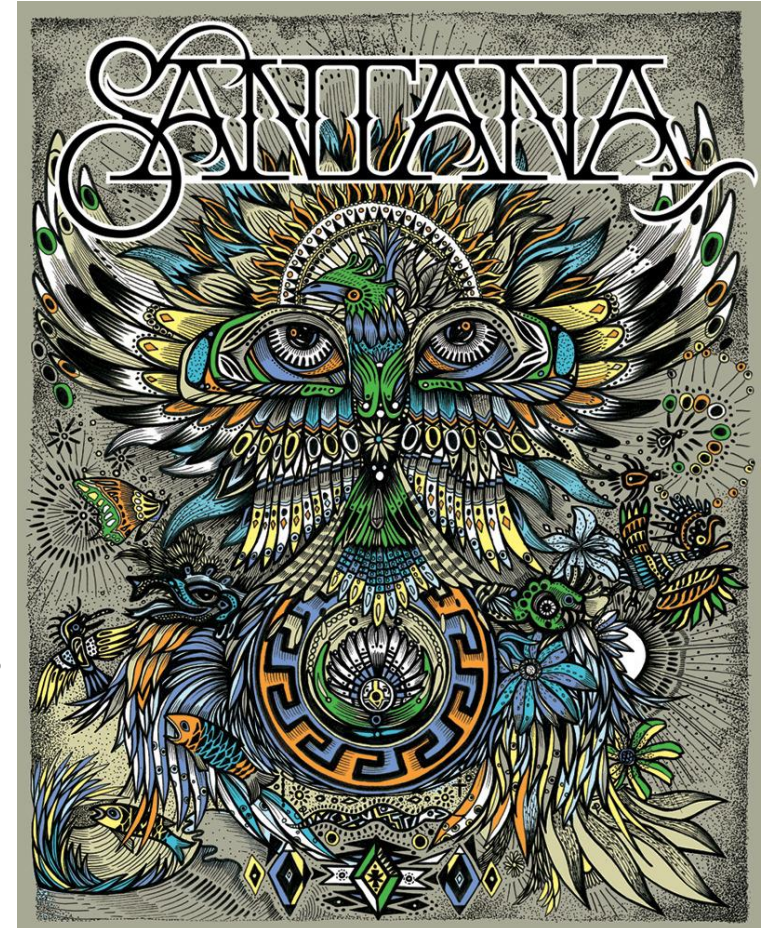
Listen to Carlos Santana's Music Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NsJ84YV1oA>

# SANTANA - GUITARIST

<http://www.rollingstone.com/music/artists/santana/biography>

Carlos Santana is a fourth-generation musician and the son of a violinist father who played mariachi music. His father tried for many years to teach him violin, but at age eight, Santana discovered the guitar and started listening to the electric blues of B.B. King and John Lee Hooker. In 1955 the family moved from the small village of Autlán de Navarro to Tijuana, where Santana began playing guitar in nightclubs. During his teens, the family moved to San Francisco. It was there, working as a dishwasher, that he formed his own band.

In the Sixties, Carlos Santana pioneered an innovative fusion of rock, fiery Afro-Latin polyrhythms, and contrasting cool, low-key vocals. In time, he was drawn to jazz-rock fusion and worked outside the band with John McLaughlin, Stanley Clarke, and others. Though the mid-Seventies saw Santana becoming involved in spiritual mysticism (he affixed "Devadip" before his name), and by the decade's end his band was back in hard-driving rhythmic form and chalked up several hit dance singles. The group continued to perform off and on into the Nineties; in 1994 Santana appeared at Woodstock '94, one of three acts who had previously performed at the original 1969 festival that were asked to return to the 25th anniversary concert. Five years later, Clive Davis signed the band to Arista Records and, by teaming Santana with a varied host of current hitmakers (including Wyclef Jean and Rob Thomas of Matchbox Twenty), orchestrated one of the most phenomenal comeback stories in rock & roll history.

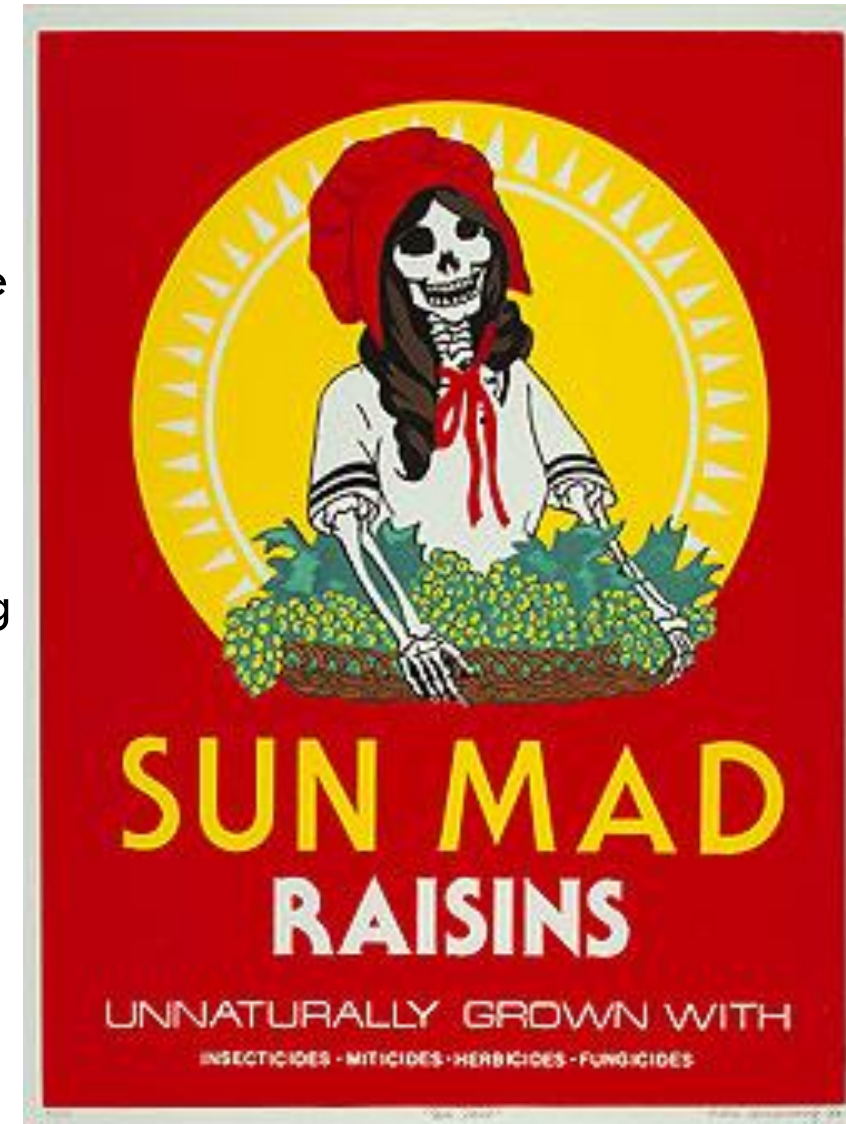


# ESTER HERNANDEZ - ARTIST

Ester Hernandez is a prominent artist who's work has raised serious conversations about issues regarding Hispanic people in the United States. The website <http://www.esterhernandez.com/about> offers the following description of the artist:

Ester Hernandez is a San Francisco based visual artist and graduate of UC Berkeley. She is best known for her depiction of Chicana and Latina women through pastels and prints. Her work reflects political, social, ecological and spiritual themes. She recently finished illustrating Sandra Cisneros' latest book, "Where is Marie?"

She has had numerous solo and group shows throughout the U.S. and internationally. Her work is included in the permanent collections of the National Museum of American Art – Smithsonian, Library of Congress, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, National Museum of Mexican Art, and the Museo Casa Estudio Diego Rivera y Frida Kahlo in Mexico City. Stanford University recently acquired her artistic archives.





“In many ways my artwork has always been a futile attempt to capture time, to create beauty, and most importantly, to make sense of the complex, ever changing, globalized world we live in. So many things separate us. I hope I will see a time when we will all unite, regardless of race, size, age, economic status, ability, gender or any other ‘ism’ that exists to separate us. I aspire to create artwork that helps to bridge that dialogue.” - **Ester Hernandez, 2011.**

# ESTER HERNANDEZ — HER ART WORK



# ROBERTO CLEMENTE — PITTSBURGH PIRATES

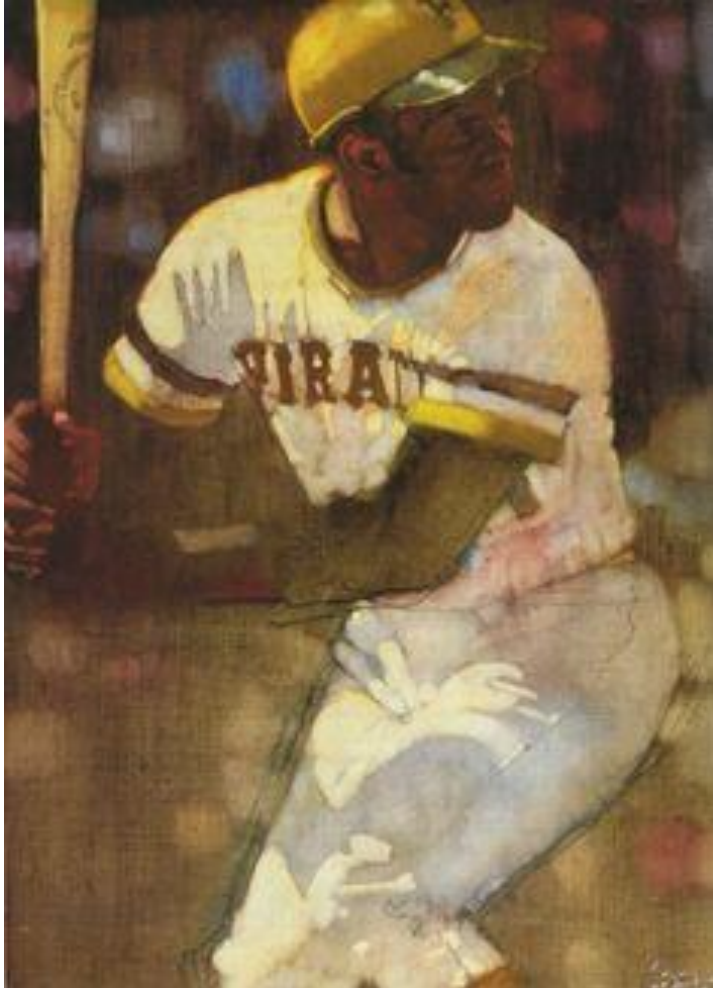


**“He played a kind of baseball that none of us had ever seen before... As if it were a form of punishment for everyone else on the field.”** – Roger Angell

The numbers he assembled over 18 big league seasons tell the story of a complete ballplayer. The story of Roberto Clemente, however, goes beyond mere numbers. Born Aug. 18, 1934, in Carolina, Puerto Rico, Clemente excelled in athletics as a youngster – and at the age of 17 was playing for the Santurce Crabbers of the Puerto Rican Baseball League. The Dodgers signed him the following year, and by 1954 he was playing for their Triple-A team in Montreal. “Well, I said to myself, there’s a boy who can do two things as well as any man who ever lived,” said Dodgers scout Clyde Sukeforth. “Nobody could throw any better than that, and nobody could run any better than that.” Following the 1954 season, however, the Dodgers tried to slip Clemente through the offseason without putting him on the big league roster. He was taken by the Pirates in the Rule 5 draft for \$4,000. Clemente worked to find his stride during the next five seasons, battling injuries and a language barrier in a country where he was a citizen but had no home.



# ROBERTO CLEMENTE — HUMANITARIAN BALLPLAYER



But in 1960, the Pirates and Clemente came of age as the limber right fielder batted .312 with a team-high 94 RBI to lead the Pirates to the World Series. In the Fall Classic, Clemente hit .310 to help the Pirates defeat the Yankees in seven games. During the next seven years, Clemente won four National League batting titles, the 1966 NL Most Valuable Player Award and began a string of 12 straight Gold Glove Award seasons in right field. In 1971, the 37-year-old Clemente led the Pirates back to the World Series, where Clemente hit .414 to power Pittsburgh to another world title en route to the Series' Most Valuable Player Award. Clemente recorded his 3,000th career hit late in the 1972 season, becoming just the 11th player to reach the milestone. Clemente and the Pirates won the NL East that year, but lost to the Reds in five games in the National League Championship Series.

On Dec. 31, 1972, Clemente boarded a small plane en route from Puerto Rico to Nicaragua to assist with earthquake relief. The heavily loaded plane crashed just off the Puerto Rican coast, and Clemente's body was never recovered. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1973 in a special election that waived the mandatory five-year waiting period. Baseball survives," wrote columnist Jimmy Cannon of the New York Journal-American, "because guys like Clemente still play it."

# ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO - MUSICIAN

Born in San Antonio, Texas, Alejandro Escovedo is a critically acclaimed rock musician who has been performing for decades internationally and across the United States. The magazine No Depression named Escovedo the Artist of the Decade in 1998, and he has continued to produce music – his own and other bands – prolifically over three decades. In 2003, after a bout with hepatitis-C, Escovedo collapsed on stage and was near death.





# ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO — GUITARIST & SONGWRITER



Friends and family produced a cover album of his work called *Por Vida* – “For Life” which was sold to raise money to cover his medical bills. He is well loved nationally, but particularly in Texas and the Southwest – he played the final evening of the SXSW festival in Austin in 2012 and is a regular at Austin City Limits for example. *Gravity*, *With These Hands*, and *The Boxing Mirror* are among his many albums. This song is called “Crooked Frame.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOmbDE6PAvE>

*If your actions inspire others to dream more,  
learn more, do more and become more, you are  
a leader.*

— JOHN QUINCY ADAMS



John Salazar and his brother Ken are two of the highest achievers among Latino office holders in American history. They are also from a family which has a uniquely American history. His family can trace its ancestry back to the 1500s in what was once New Spain. Therefore, although he identifies as Mexican-American, his family has lived in this place far longer than most Americans. From 2005 – 2011, John Salazar represented Colorado in the House of Representatives. His nickname during that period was “The Patriot of the Prairie.”

**JOHN SALAZAR —  
COLORADO  
REPRESENTATIVE**



# KEN SALAZAR — SENATOR AND SEC. OF THE INTERIOR

Ken Salazar probably outranked his brother in terms of political accomplishments. He was elected to the Senate from Colorado, where he served from 2005 – 2009. In 2009, President Barack Obama selected him as the new Secretary of the Interior.

Salazar had a decidedly mixed record as Secretary of the Interior. He was accused of having business relations with a man who had rounded up and slaughtered thousands of wild horse in the Colorado prairies; moreover, he continued to sign off on licenses to conduct deep water oil drilling even after the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010.

Today, Ken Salazar is the leader of Hillary Clinton's transition team. Should she win the general election in 2016, he'll be in charge of insuring a smooth transition into the White House.



# RAY SUAREZ — JOURNALIST, NEWS ANCHOR, AUTHOR

Ray Suarez is an influential journalist and author, who is probably best known for his contributions to the PBS Newshour from 1999 through 2014. Born to a Puerto Rican family in Brooklyn, New York, Suarez attended NYU and later the University of Chicago, where he studied African History and received a Masters degree in Social Sciences, respectively.

From 1993 to 1999, Suarez was the host of NPR's radio program "The Talk of the Nation," and also managed an international new program called "America Abroad" for Public Radio International. During his fifteen year tenure at PBS Newshour, Suarez contributed important stories and delivered compelling interviews. He even hosted a Presidential Debate in 2004 for Univision. In 2013, however, he resigned from his position with PBS in order to seek out a larger role with another organization.

Ray Suarez is the author of three critically acclaimed books:

*The Old Neighborhood: What We Lost in the Great Suburban Migration, 1966 – 1999* (1999)

*The Holy Vote: The Politics of Faith in America* (2006)

*Latino Americans: The 500 Year History That Shaped a Nation* (2013)





# ANTHONY ROMERO — ACLU PRESIDENT

Anthony D. Romero is the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, the nation's premier defender of liberty and individual freedom. He took the helm of the organization just seven days before the September 11, 2001 attacks. Shortly afterward, the ACLU launched its national "Keep America Safe and Free" campaign to protect basic freedoms during a time of crisis, achieving court victories on the Patriot Act, uncovering thousands of pages of documents detailing the torture and abuse of detainees in U.S. custody, and filing the first successful legal challenge to the Bush administration's illegal NSA spying program.

Romero has also led the ACLU in its unique legal challenge to the patents held by a private company on the human genes associated with breast and ovarian cancer; in its landmark lawsuit challenging Arizona's anti-immigrant law that invites law enforcement to engage in racial profiling; in its high-profile litigation and lobbying efforts to win the freedom to marry for same-sex couples; and in its nationwide Campaign for Smart Justice, which aims to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the number of Americans behind bars.



*Anthony Romero*



# ACLU

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

<https://www.aclu.org/feature/campaign-smart-justice>

# ANTHONY ROMERO OF THE ACLU



## JOB APPLICATION

☐ Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense?

**Ban the BOX**



An attorney with a history of public-interest activism, Romero has presided over the most successful membership growth in the ACLU's history and a large increase in national and affiliate staff. This extraordinary growth has allowed the ACLU to expand its nationwide litigation, lobbying, and public education efforts, including new initiatives focused on human rights, racial justice, religious freedom, technology and privacy, reproductive freedom, criminal law reform, and LGBT rights. In 2010, the ACLU completed the largest fundraising campaign on behalf of civil rights and civil liberties in American history. "Leading Freedom Forward: The ACLU Campaign for the Future," along with the ongoing Strategic Affiliate Initiative, launched an unprecedented effort to build the organization's infrastructure by increasing funding to key state affiliates, enhancing advocacy capabilities nationwide, and securing the ACLU's financial future. Romero is the ACLU's sixth executive director, and the first Latino and openly gay man to serve in that capacity. In 2005, Romero was named one of Time Magazine's "25 Most Influential Hispanics in America," and has received dozens of public service awards and an honorary doctorate from the City University of New York School of Law. In 2007, Romero and co-author and NPR correspondent Dina Temple-Raston published "In Defense of Our America: The Fight for Civil Liberties in the Age of Terror," a book that takes a critical look at civil liberties in this country at a time when constitutional freedoms are in peril. Born in New York City to parents who hailed from Puerto Rico, Romero was the first in his family to graduate from high school. He is a graduate of Stanford University Law School and Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy and International Affairs. He is a member of the New York Bar Association and has sat on numerous nonprofit boards.



# SECRETARY OF ENERGY BILL RICHARDSON

Before being elected Governor of New Mexico, Richardson was Chairman of Freedom House, a private nonpartisan organization that promotes democracy and human rights worldwide, and served on the boards of the National Resource Defense Council and United Way International. He has been an adjunct professor at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, and has received several honorary degrees from institutions of higher learning that include Tufts University and the University of New Mexico. As Governor, he taught courses at the University of New Mexico and New Mexico State University; this year, he will teach courses at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy and Columbia University. More recently, he was given the National Hispanic Hero Award by the U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute.

As Governor of New Mexico, Richardson's bold governing style moved New Mexico forward in several important areas, including clean energy, education, transportation, healthcare, immigration, environmental protection and \$1 billion in tax cuts to New Mexicans. He vastly improved the state's job numbers and improved economic development by bringing the movie industry to New Mexico, which resulted in more than 140 major film and TV productions. He also built a light-rail system from Albuquerque to Santa Fe, and partnered with Virgin Galactic to build a commercial spaceport.

During his administration, more than \$1 billion was invested in public schools, including professional salaries to recruit and retain quality teachers. He also shifted education money away from the administration and into the classroom, and increased access to early childhood education. In 2010, he was named the "best education Governor" by the National Education Administration.

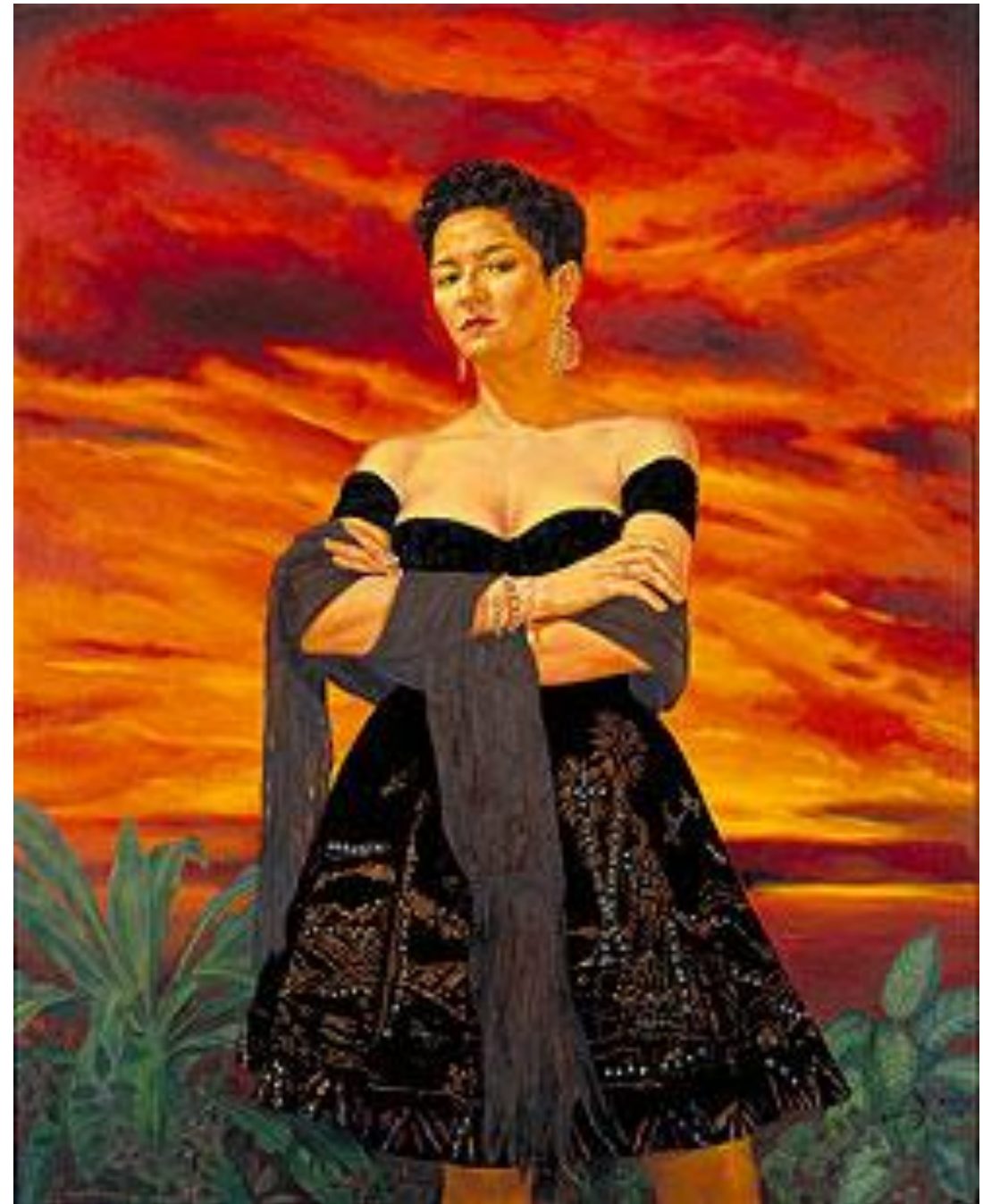
For more than 30 years, Bill Richardson has led a distinguished public-service career as a U.S. Congressman (1982-1996), U. S. Ambassador to the United Nations (1997-1998), and Secretary of Energy under President Bill Clinton (1998-2000). In 2008, he sought the Democratic nomination for President, dropping out after Iowa and New Hampshire. As a diplomat and Special Envoy, Richardson has received four Nobel Peace Prize nominations, and has successfully won the release of hostages and American servicemen in North Korea, Cuba, Iraq and the Sudan.



# SANDRA CISNEROS - AUTHOR

Sandra Cisneros is a poet, short story writer, novelist, and essayist, whose work explores the lives of the working-class. Her numerous awards include NEA fellowships in both poetry and fiction, the Texas Medal of the Arts, a MacArthur Fellowship, several honorary doctorates, book awards nationally and internationally, and most recently Chicago's Fifth Star Award and the PEN Center USA Literary Award. The House on Mango Street has sold over five million copies, has been translated into over twenty languages, and is required reading in elementary, high school, and university curricula across the U.S. Founder of awards and foundations that serve writers and a dual citizen of the United States and Mexico, Sandra Cisneros earns her living by her pen.

<http://www.sandracisneros.com/bio.php>





# *THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET*— BY SANDRA CISNEROS

A 25th anniversary edition of *The House on Mango Street* was published in 2006. Sandra Cisneros wrote the novel, which is the story of a Mexican-American girl growing up in Chicago. Today, the novel is required reading for many middle and high school students across the country.

Today, the novel is simply a beloved entry point for literature for many young people. It's not exactly a children's book. Some of the stories within are very dark and troubling; but everything is from the perspective of a resilient young person. *The House On Mango Street* is more patchwork quilt than novel. It's a series of exquisitely observed vignettes stitched from the experiences of a Mexican-American girl and the characters swirling around her tumble-down Chicago neighborhood.

Below, you can find a link to an interview the with author of *The House on Mango Street*, Sandra Cisneros.



<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=102900929>

# ALBERTO GONZALES — ATTORNEY GENERAL UNDER GEORGE W. BUSH

Alberto Gonzales is the highest ranking Hispanic American to ever serve in the executive branch of the government. He was the grandchild of undocumented Mexican-American workers, and one of eight children born into a humble family outside of Houston, TX. Working his way through the law program at the Air Force Academy and later Rice University in TX, Gonzales went into private practice and became a partner in his firm before Texas Governor George W. Bush selected him for his general counsel. He rose up the political ranks from there, becoming the state of Texas Secretary of State and later a member of the Texas Supreme Court.





# ALBERTO GONZALES — CONTROVERSIES...

Alberto Gonzales was extremely controversial during his time in office, and well known for his willingness to defend practices of the George W. Bush administration which were considered constitutionally dubious. He was most often criticized for his defense of “enhanced interrogation techniques” — a euphemism for methods which were previous — and are now — considered torture. Gonzales helped to write a memo which declared that al-Qaeda did not constitute an “enemy combatant” under the terms of the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War, and that they were not therefore protected by the agreement. This memo would be a defense for practices like slapping detainees, the use of stress positions, sleep deprivation, and waterboarding. He also threatened to sue the New York Times for their story which exposed warrantless eavesdropping carried out by the NSA. In 2007, he offered his resignation to President George W. Bush and it was accepted.



Copyright by Matt Wuerker.

# SONIA SOTOMAYOR

Justice Sonya Sotomayor is the fourth woman ever appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States, and the first person of Hispanic Heritage ever to join the highest Court in the land. Sotomayor was born into a Puerto Rican American family in the Bronx, and excelled academically from a young age. She went to Princeton and then to Yale Law School before signing on as an Assistant District Attorney in New York County. She quickly distinguished herself. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York recommended her for a Federal District Judge position in the early 1990s, and George H.W. Bush appointed her to the position. Bill Clinton nominated her to the Court of Appeals before President Barack Obama selected her to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court when David Souter resigned. Today, Sotomayor is considered on of the most reliable members of the “liberal” wing of the Court: Ginsberg, Sotomayor, Kagan, and Steven Breyer – and occasionally Justice Kennedy.





# GLORIA ANZALDUA —

## *BORDERLANDS: THE NEW MESTIZA*

*“Nothing happens in the ‘real’ world unless it first happens in the images in our heads.”*

Gloria Anzaldua was a leading scholar of feminist, queer and Chicana theories. She was the first author to combine these subjects in poetry, narrative and autobiographical works. She helped build a multicultural feminist movement and called for people of different races to move forward together. Anzaldua was born to farm workers in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. After witnessing Spanish speakers being treated as second-class citizens, she began writing about Mexican-American liberation.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in English from Pan American University and moved to California to teach feminism, creative writing and Chicana studies. She received a master’s degree from the University of Texas, where she taught a groundbreaking course called “The Mexican-American Woman.”

Anzaldua co-edited “This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color” (1981), one of the most cited books in feminist theory. She is best known for her autobiographical narrative, “Borderlands: The New Mestiza” (1987), which explores her identity as a Chicana lesbian feminist. The Hungry Mind Review and Utne Reader named “Borderlands” among the 100 best books of the century.

Her work is most noted for its mix of two variations of English and six of Spanish. She refused to write in only one language. “As long as I have to accommodate the English speakers rather than having them accommodate me,” Anzaldua said, “my tongue will be illegitimate.”

Anzaldua won many awards, including the Lambda Lesbian Small Book Press Award, the Lesbian Rights Award, National Endowment for the Arts Fiction Award and the American Studies Association Lifetime Achievement Award. She died while working on her doctorate in literature, and was posthumously awarded a Ph.D. by the University of California, Santa Cruz.



# GUSTAVO PEREZ FIRMAT: “BILINGUAL BLUES”

## “Bilingual Blues” by Gustavo Perez Firmat

Soy un ajiaco de contradicciones.  
I have mixed feelings about everything.  
Name your tema, I'll hedge;  
Name your cerca, I'll straddle it  
Like a cubano.

I have mixed feelings about everything.  
Soy un ajiaco de contradicciones.  
Vexed, hexed, complexed,  
Hyphenated, oxygenated, illegally alienated,  
Psycho soy, cantando voy:  
You say tomato,  
I say tu madre;  
You say potato,  
I say Pototo.

Let's call the hole  
Un hueco, the thing  
A cosa, and if the cosa goes into the hueco,  
Consider yourself en casa,  
Consider yourself part of the family.

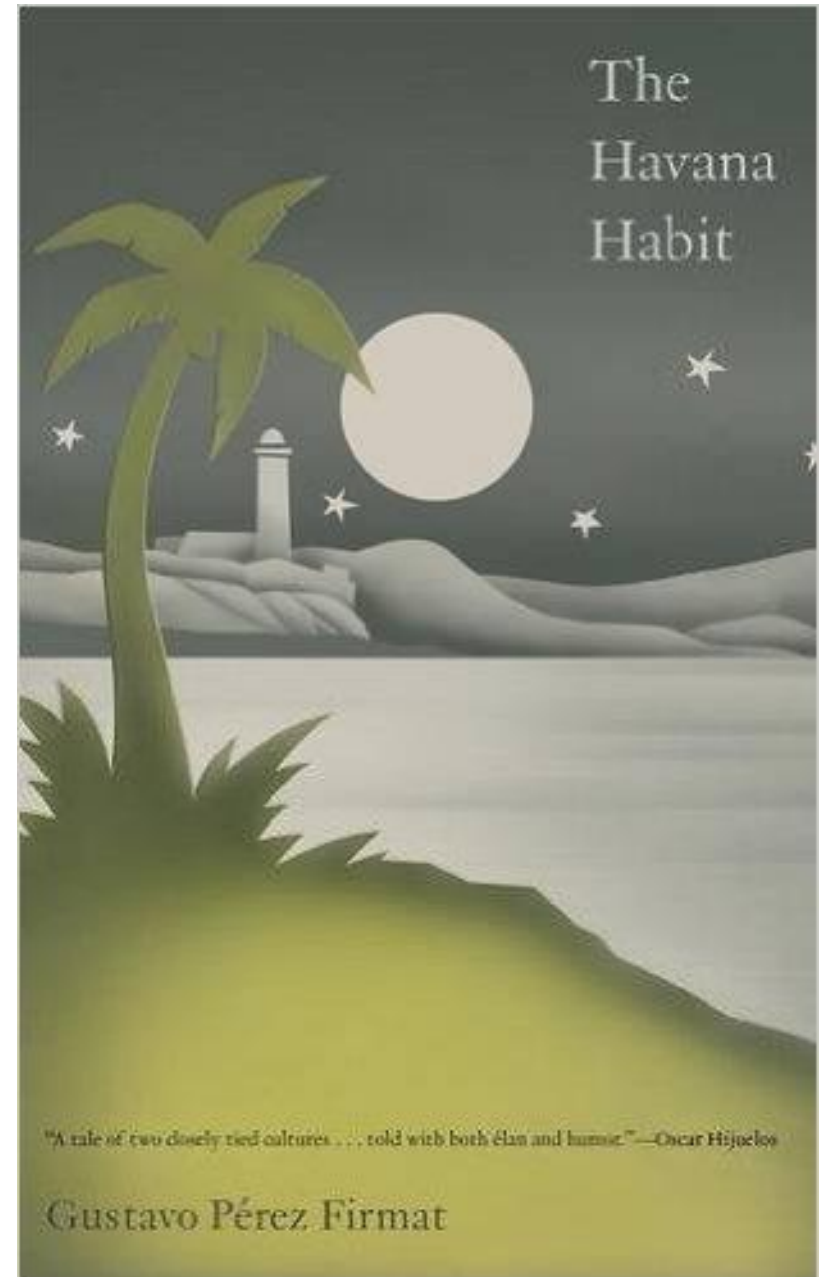
Soy un ajiaco de contradicciones,  
Un puré de impurezas:  
A little square from Rubik's Cuba  
Que nadie nunca acoplará.  
(Cha-cha-chá.)



[http://www.gustavoperezfirmat.com/gpf\\_about.php](http://www.gustavoperezfirmat.com/gpf_about.php)

# GUSTAVO PEREZ FIRMAT - WRITER

A writer and scholar, Gustavo Pérez Firmat was born in Havana, Cuba, and raised in Miami, Florida. He attended Miami-Dade Community College, the University of Miami, and the University of Michigan, where he earned a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature. He taught at Duke University from 1979 to 1999 and is currently the David Feinson Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University. Firmat is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has been the recipient of fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Mellon Foundation. He is the author of many books of prose and poetry, including *Bilingual Blues*, *The Havana Habit* and *Next Year in Cuba*, a memoir of life at home and in exile. His study of Cuban American culture, *Life on the Hyphen*, was awarded the Eugene M. Kayden University Press National Book Award. In 1995, Firmat was named Duke University Scholar/Teacher of the Year. In 1997 *Newsweek* included him among "100 Americans to Watch for the 21st century" and *Hispanic Business Magazine* selected him as one of the "100 most influential Hispanics" in the United States. In 2004 he was named one of New York's thirty "outstanding Latinos" by *El Diario La Prensa*. In 2005 he was selected Educator of the Year by the National Association of Cuban American Educators. Gustavo Perex Firmat has been featured in the documentary *CubaAmerican* and in the 2013 PBS series *Latino Americans*.



# JUNOT DIAZ - AUTHOR

You need to read these books:

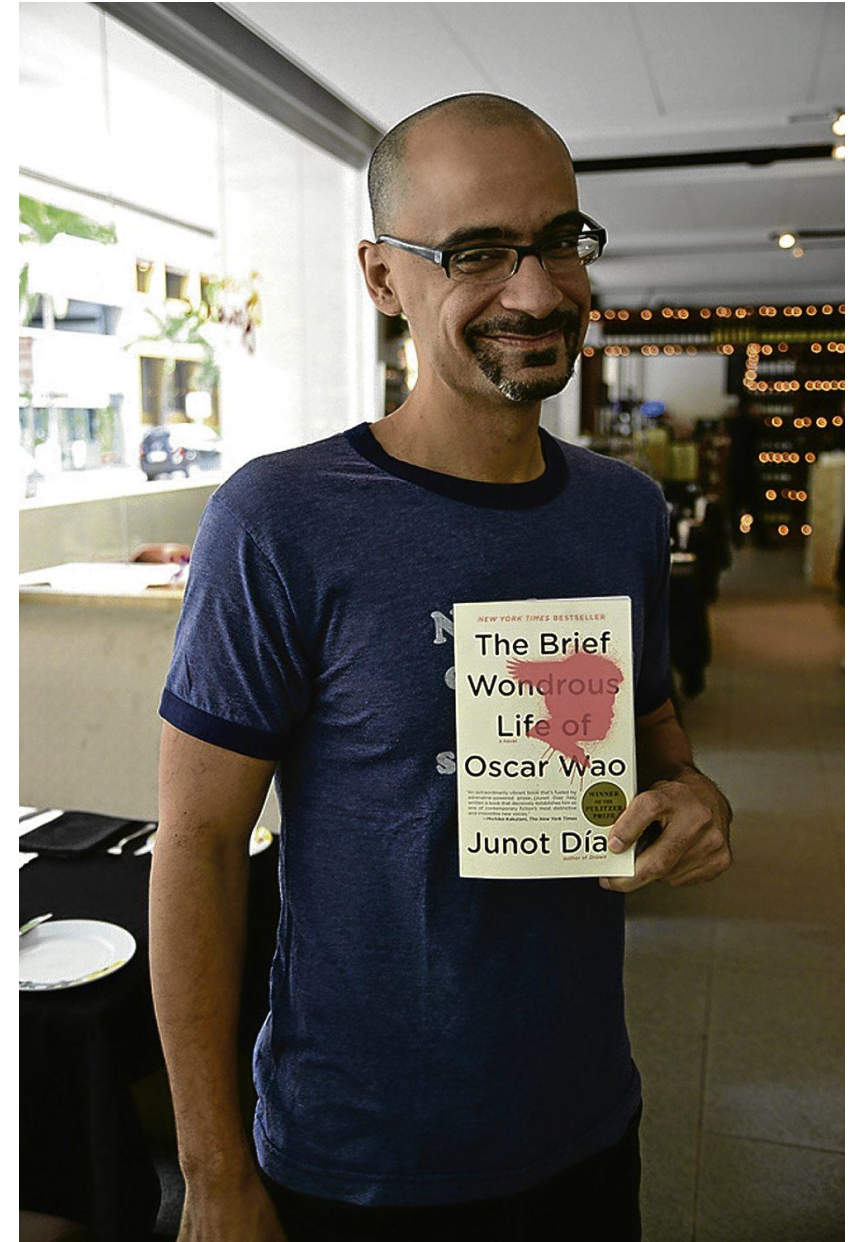
*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* (2008) – The winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Circle Critics Award for 2008.

*Drown* (1996) – A collection of short stories.

*This Is How You Lose Her* (2012) – Finalist for the New York Times National Book Award.

Junot Diaz was born in the Dominican Republic and immigrated to America with his family at a young age. He attended Rutgers University and earned a Masters of Fine Arts at Cornell. Currently, he's a professor of Creative Writing at MIT in Boston.

Bring your Spanish-to-English dictionary when you read his work! It's worth it!





# JUNOT DIAZ — AUTHOR OF *THE BRIEF WONDERFUL LIFE OF OSCAR WAO*



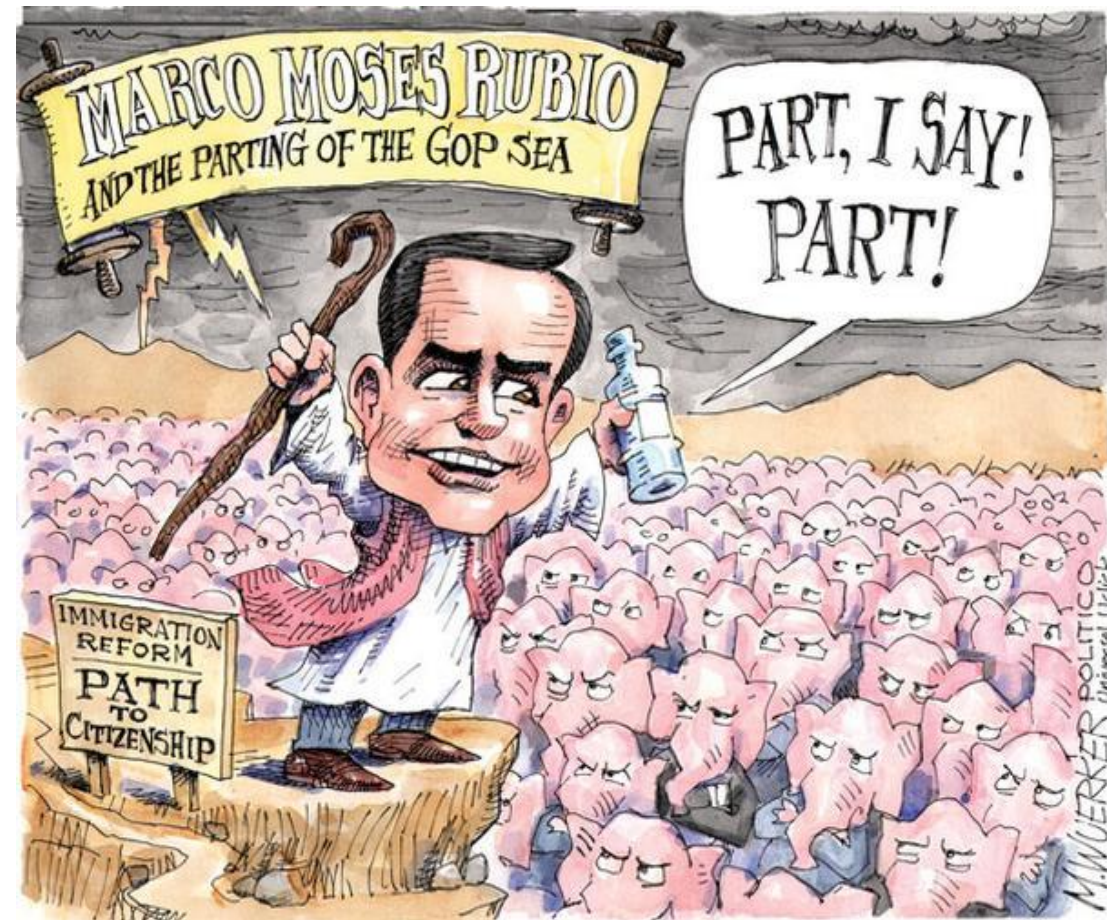
When asked in an interview, “Do you think using Spanish in your writing alienates some of your readers?” Junot Diaz responded:

“Mother\*\*\*\*\*s will read a book that is one third Elfish, but put in two sentences in Spanish and they think we’re taking over!”

NOTE: Before you shy away from a book that requires you to learn a few new words, consider that you expand your vocabulary even when you’re reading authors who write exclusively in English. You have to run to the dictionary once in a while anyway, so why fear the Spanish-English dictionary? And, moreover, many world renown authors — from Tolkien to James Joyce have literally invented new languages in their work.

# MARCO RUBIO — SENATOR FROM FLORIDA

One of the most promising candidates for President during the 2016 Republican Primaries was Marco Rubio of Florida. A unique candidate, Rubio was the child of Cuban immigrants – a Catholic who had spent many of his formative years worshipping in the Mormon Church— and a proven electoral winner in the swing state of Florida. Unfortunately for Rubio, he was unable to gather any momentum during the primary season. He was consistently the runner up or third place finisher, but rarely won any of the primaries. Only Minnesota, Puerto Rico, and Washington, DC, all Democratic strongholds, went for Marco Rubio. Many political scientist believe that his desire to find a pathway for immigrants to citizenship was held against him by a Republican electorate seeking strict enforcement of immigration laws – and no pathway to citizenship.





# TED CRUZ — SENATOR FROM TEXAS

Ted Cruz was the runner up in the Republican Primary of 2016, and fought a long and bitter struggle against Donald Trump for the nomination. Cruz — the son of a Cuban immigrant and an American woman — who was born in Canada, refused to endorse Donald Trump even during the Republican National Convention this summer. Recently, however, he “encouraged” all of his supporters to vote Trump. A darling of the Tea Party, Ted Cruz has burned bridges with both the Democrats and his fellow Republicans over issues. Cruz was critical to the shutdown of the federal government in October of 2013, and attempted to insist upon a defunding of Obamacare.

John McCain referred to him as a “wacko bird.” Former House Speaker John Boehner called him “Lucifer in the flesh.” Lindsey Graham suggested that if he were killed on the floor of the Senate, no one seated in the Congress would convict the perpetrator. Love him or hate him, Cruz has become one of the most influential political figures in the United States in the last decade. He is extremely popular in Texas, and has become a leader among arch conservative political organizations.

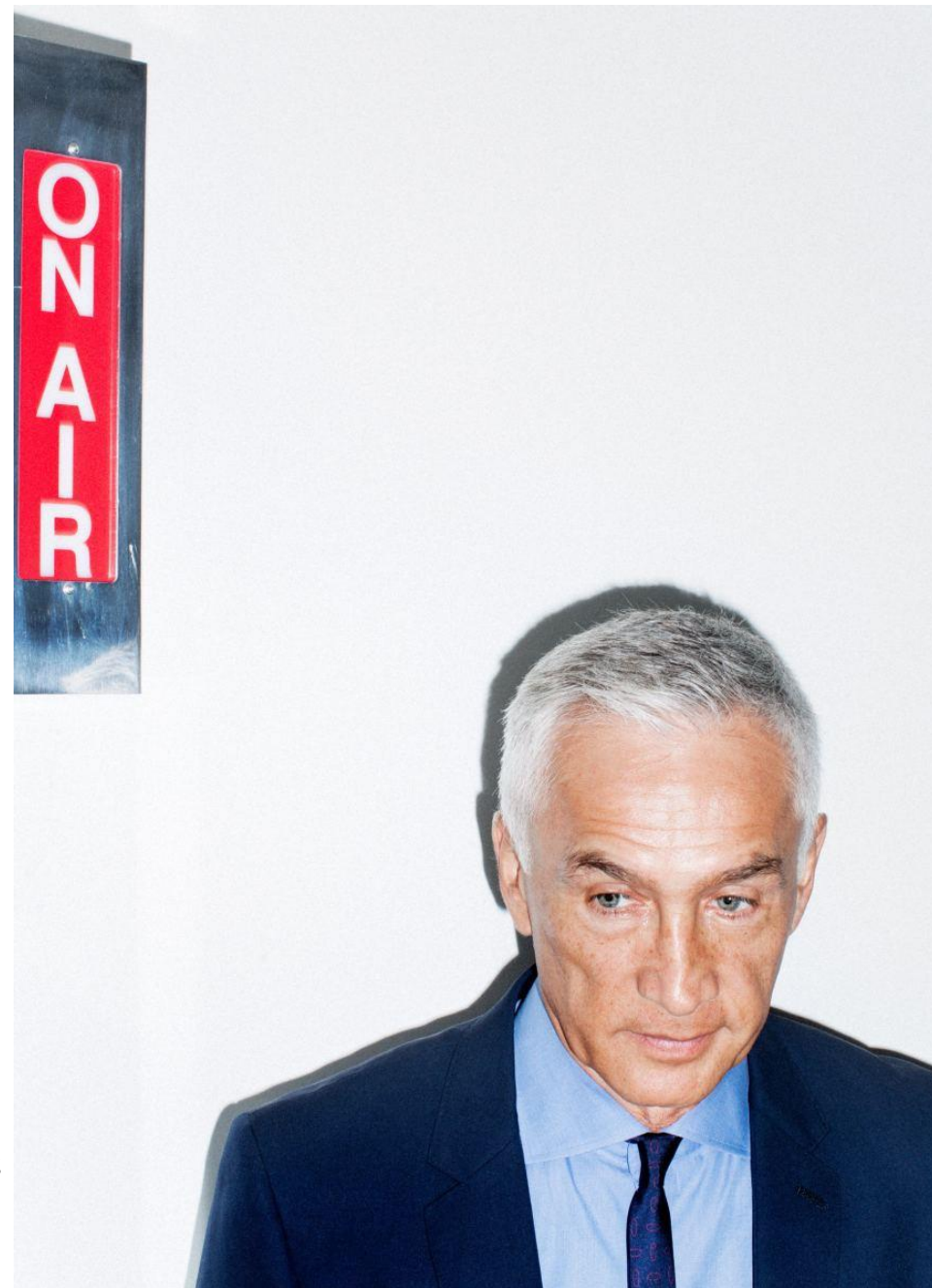


“With an approach like that, we’ll **NEVER** beat the Democrats!”



# JORGE RAMOS - JOURNALIST

Has been called “Star newscaster of Hispanic TV” and “Hispanic TV’s No. 1 correspondent and key to a huge voting bloc” by The Wall Street Journal. Time magazine included him in the list of “the 25 most influential Hispanics in the United States” and Newsweek in its list of 50 political and media figure. A survey conducted by the Pew Hispanic Center found that Ramos is the second most recognized Latino leader in the country. Latino Leaders magazine chose him as one of “The Ten Most Admired Latinos” and “101 Top Leaders of the Latino Community in the U.S.” The Miami Herald said, “As household names go, Jorge Ramos is huge...in Miami, Los Angeles and Houston, his newscast consistently beats out all the other networks for the top ratings”. More than 2 million people tune in daily to his newscast and almost a million to his Sunday morning political show. (The Nielsen Company) Jorge Ramos has been the anchorman for Noticiero Univision since 1986. In addition Ramos also hosts “Al Punto”, Univision’s weekly public affairs program offering in- depth analysis of the week’s top-stories and exclusive interviews with newsmakers. He is also the host of Fusion’s “AMERICA with Jorge Ramos,” a hard-hitting news program geared towards young adults. Among his many recognitions, he received the Maria Moors Cabot award from the University of Columbia and has won 8 Emmy awards for excellence in journalism (including the first one ever presented by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences to honor leaders of Spanish Language Television). He was honored in 2002 with the “Ruben Salazar” award by the National Council of La Raza for his positive portrayal of Latinos.





# JORGE RAMOS — JOURNALIST AND ACTIVIST



In 2008 The Commonwealth Club of California recognized him with the Distinguished Citizen Award for being one of the outstanding individuals who embody the American Dream as an immigrant to the United States. His most recent book is “A Country for All; An Immigrant Manifesto” (Vintage/RandomHouse). Ramos received the Latino Book Award in 2006.

He is the author of ten books and bestsellers: “Behind the Mask”, “What I Saw”, “The Other Face of America”, “Hunting the Lion”, his autobiography “No Borders: a Journalist’s Search for Home”, “The Latino Wave”, “Dying to Cross”, “The Gift of Time; Letters from a Father”, and the children’s book “I’m Just Like My Dad/I’m Just Like My Mom” (HarperCollins) and “A Country for All; An Immigrant Manifesto”. Ramos has been instrumental in promoting literacy among Latinos. In 2002 he created the first book club in the history of Hispanic television: Despierta Leyendo (Wake Up Reading). He writes a weekly column for more than 40 newspapers in the United States and Latin America distributed by The New York Times Syndicate, provides three daily radio commentary for the Radio Univision network and collaborates with the largest Spanish- language website in the United States ([www.univision.com](http://www.univision.com)).

He is frequently tapped to comment on issues related to Hispanic Americans and has been featured in NBC’s Today Show, CBS’ Early Show, ABC’s “Nightline”, CNN’s “Larry King”, “Crossfire” and “Lou Dobbs”, Fox News’ “The O’Reilly Factor”, PBS’ “Charlie Rose”, HBO’s “Real Time with Bill Maher”, Comedy Central’s “The Colbert Report”, among many others.

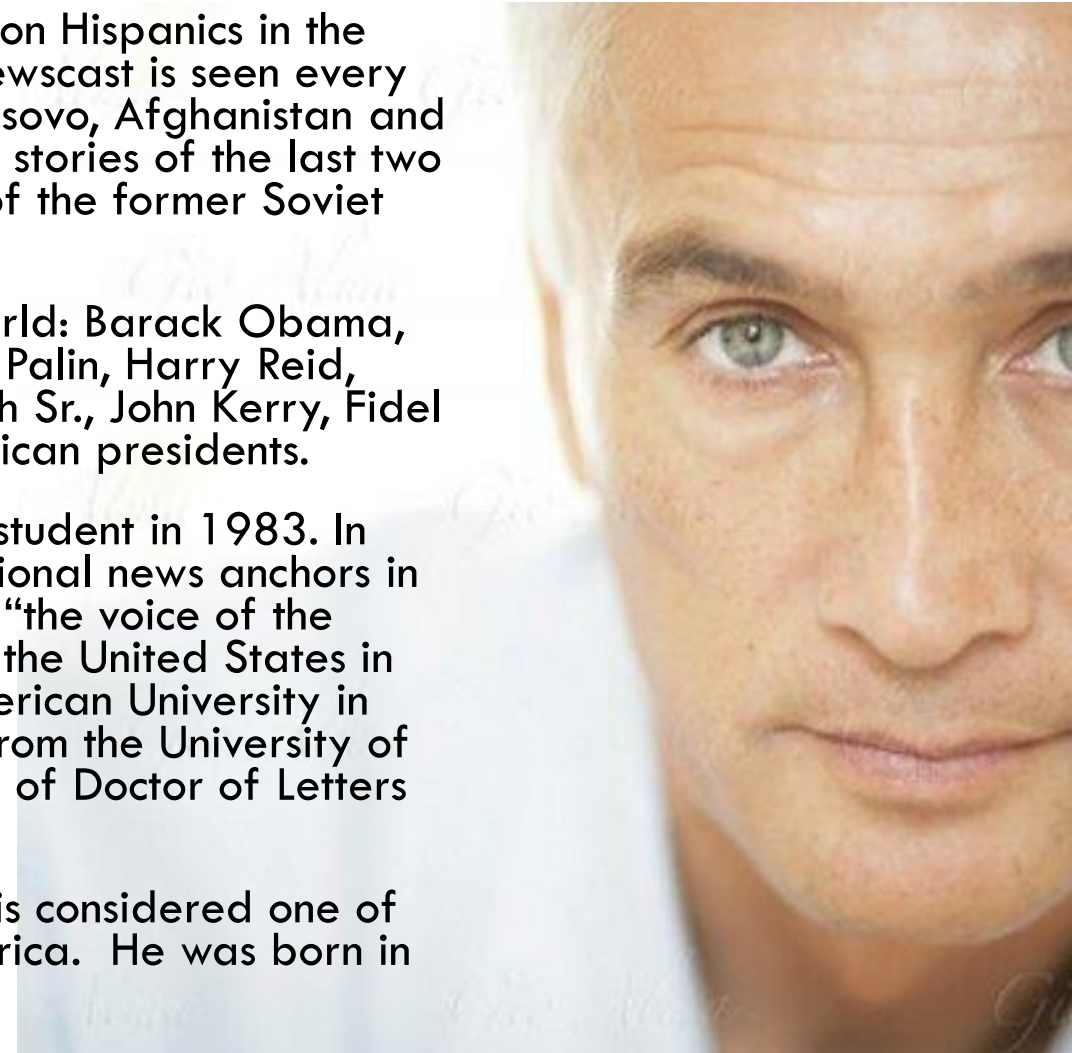
# JORGE RAMOS — JOURNALIST, AMERICAN CITIZEN

Ramos is one of the most respected journalists among the 50 million Hispanics in the United States and in the 13 Latin American countries where his newscast is seen every night. He has covered five wars (El Salvador, the Persian Gulf, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq) and has been a witness to some of the most important news stories of the last two decades, including the fall of the Berlin Wall, the disintegration of the former Soviet Union, 9/11 and the catastrophe of hurricane Katrina.

He has interviewed some of the most influential leaders in the world: Barack Obama, John McCain, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Sarah Palin, Harry Reid, Newt Gingrich, Mitt Romney, John Edwards, Al Gore, George Bush Sr., John Kerry, Fidel Castro, Hugo Chávez, Felipe Calderon and dozens of Latin American presidents.

Jorge Ramos is an immigrant. He came to the United States as a student in 1983. In November 1986, at age 28, he became one of the youngest national news anchors in the history of American television. Since then, he has been called “the voice of the voiceless” for other immigrants like him. [He became a citizen of the United States in 2008.] Ramos holds a degree in communication at the Ibero-American University in México City and has a Master’s degree in International Studies from the University of Miami. The University of Richmond gave him an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in 2007.

He is a father of two, plays soccer every Saturday morning and is considered one of the most eloquent, credible and powerful voices of Hispanic America. He was born in Mexico City on March 16, 1958.





The number of eligible Hispanic and Latino voters has tripled in the United States under Gonzalez' leadership of SVREP.

# WILLIAM C. VELASQUEZ, ANTONIO GONZALEZ & THE SOUTHWEST VOTER REGISTRATION EDUCATION PROJECT

The Southwest Voter Registration Education Project was founded in 1974 by Willie C. Velasquez. The original purpose of the non-partisan organization was to ensure the voting rights of all Mexican- Americans in the Southwestern United States. Today, however, SVREP is active in fourteen states, including all of the Southwestern states from Texas to California, states in the Southeast including Virginia, and parts of the Pacific Northwest. Since 1974, over 2.5 Million Hispanic voters have been registered by the organization. Antonio Gonzalez is the current leader of SVREP, and the “Su Voto es Su Voz” – or “Your Vote is Your Voice” – campaign may influence the outcome of the 2016 Elections.



# MASS DEPORTATION AND AN EXECUTIVE ORDER VERSION OF THE DREAMERS ACT — BARACK OBAMA

Although many people — including Presidential Candidate Donald Trump — have accused President Obama of having allowed illegal immigration to overwhelm America during his eight years in office, the statistics simply do not bear this out.

According to the Department of Homeland Security and ABC News, President Obama has deported more than 2.5 Million illegal immigrants during the first seven years of his Presidency. This number is more than any other President in the entire history of the United States, and it is more than all of the Presidents of the United States during the entire 20<sup>th</sup> Century — combined!

91% of those removed were previously convicted of a crime. Obama prioritized removing “felons over families.” Another major factor in the large number of deportations has been the huge increase in unaccompanied minors coming to America to claim refugee status — a trend which peaked in 2014. The vast majority of these minors were returned to their nation of origin — in an effort to discourage future attempts at dangerous immigrant journeys.





# OBAMA'S CONTROVERSIAL DREAM ACT – PUT FORTH BY EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT AND OVERTURNED BY THE SUPREME COURT'S REFUSAL TO CONSIDER APPEAL...

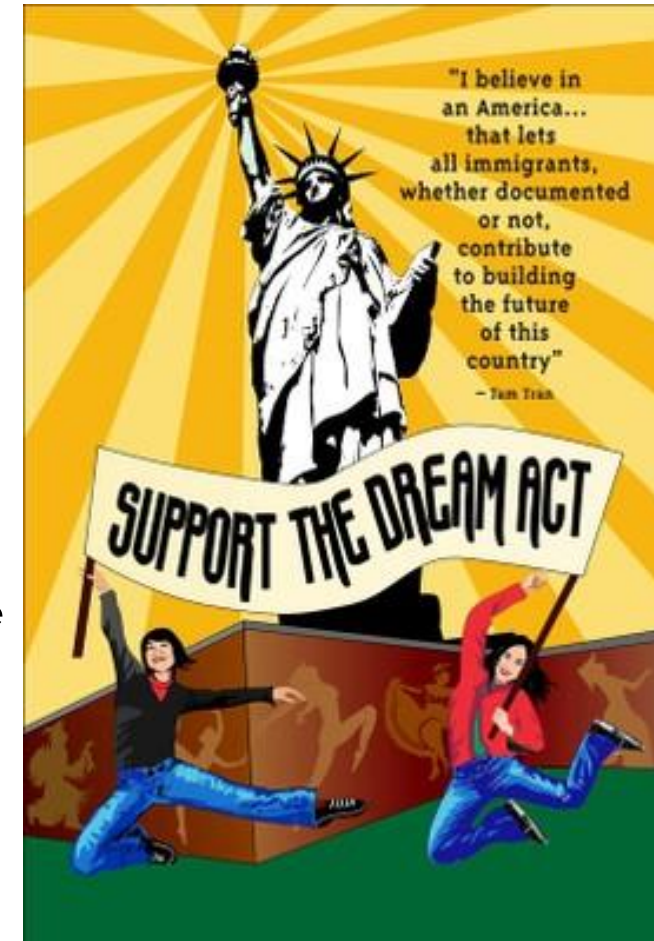
On June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012, President Obama announced an abbreviated version of the Dream Act, which he put into effect using an executive order. The basic idea behind this order was summarized in the New York Times:

“Administration officials said the president used existing legal authority to make the broad policy change, which could temporarily benefit more than 800,000 young people. He did not consult with Congress, where Republicans have generally opposed measures to benefit illegal immigrants.

The policy, while not granting any permanent legal status, clears the way for young illegal immigrants to come out of the shadows, work legally and obtain driver's licenses and many other documents they have lacked.

“They are Americans in their heart, in their minds, in every single way but one: on paper,” President Obama said in announcing the new policy in the White House Rose Garden on Friday. He said he was taking “a temporary stopgap measure” that would “lift the shadow of deportation from these young people” and make immigration policy “more fair, more efficient and more just.”

Under the change, the Department of Homeland Security will no longer initiate the deportation of illegal immigrants who came to the United States before age 16, have lived here for at least five years, and are in school, are high school graduates or are military veterans in good standing. The immigrants must also be not more than 30 and have clean criminal records.”



# DONALD TRUMP AND THE WALL

Donald Trump is the Republican candidate for President of the United States of America, and has repeatedly stated that, if elected President, he will build a wall across the nation's Southern border with Mexico to prevent illegal immigration. And, Mexico will pay for it. Trump began his campaign by stating: "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're not sending you. They're not sending you. They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with us. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people."



<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/positions/pay-for-the-wall>



# A FEW OTHER COMMENTS FROM DONALD TRUMP:



- To Jorge Ramos, after he had been physically removed from a Trump press conference for asking a question: “Go back to Univision.”
- Of Federal Justice Gonzalo Curiel, he stated, “He’s a hater. His name is Gonzalo Curiel... The judge, who happens to be we believe, Mexican, which is great, I think that’s fine.” Curiel is not Mexican – he was born in Indiana – yet, Trump insisted that being Mexican-American meant that he could not make a fair decision in a case involving him. “I’m building a wall,” Trump said. “It’s an inherent conflict of interest.”
- And of course, there was this, seriously: Happy #CincoDeMayo! The best taco bowls are made in Trump Tower Grill. I love Hispanics!  
<https://www.facebook.com/DonaldTrump/posts/10157008375200725>:0 ...